真・天地無用！魎皇鬼外伝

天地無用！GXP4

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SHIN TENCHI MUYO! RYO-OHKI GAIDEN
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天地無用! GXP 4
TENCHI MUYO! GXP 4
"If it was going to become this busy, maybe we should have said that we had computer trouble as well?"
Airi complained as she wore the skin-tight cleansuit. She was checking the special-order lunches that were in layered, lacquered boxes.

"Welcome back, Master."
Seina and the others got off of the cruiser and were politely greeted by Hakuren, Gyokuren, Karen, and Suiren who wore simple and classic maid outfits.
"...I knew it."
Kiriko held her head and sunk to the floor.

"Are you okay?"
Miki, who had gone up on the landing first, asked as she stretched out a hand to Seina.

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Chapter One: Ringo's Gratitude

*** * * Translators' note: This takes place before episode 8, 11:50 minutes in. * * ***

The outer ring of Galaxy Academy was a huge structure which surrounded the inner solar system. It was a place where ordinary people could go to get the latest benefits of the state-of-the-art technology being studied by Galaxy Academy. In addition, it was the base of the Galactic Federation, the GP, and it was also a center of technology, logistics, economics and politics. For that reason, many companies and people gathered from around the galaxy to set up shop in the outer ring, and despite its enormousness, the ring was constantly being expanded due to the supply of available land not meeting the demand. And demand was increasing every year. Many speculated that eventually it would become a completely spherical structure.

Recently Seina's mass capture of Space Pirates, had caused a massive improvement in economic security and economic revitalization swept the galaxy, so a massive expansion of the rings had recently become quite realistic and finally it had become subject to betting by the Academy's largest book taker, The MMD.

* * * **Translators' note: A book taker means they are accountants who take bets. * * ***

Those that gathered in the outer ring were not just those who benefited from the technology or logistical advantages that the academy provided, however. "From the Cradle to the Grave," as long as there were people and machines there was a lot of secondary necessities that needed fulfilling. That was why the number of people immigrating there was increasing exponentially.

The Academy was where many opportunities were rolling in by the shipload every day, but not everyone there was necessarily profiting. There were economic failures just as there were successes.
In addition to the GP and the large space used by large companies, there were many small ports used by small companies and private individuals on the outer ring as well as simple accommodations for tourists, and shops and amusement entertainment venues. However, the outer ring had a high land price because of the shortage of available sites, so in order to cope with the expenses, several of the newer buildings were made of old transportation containers. However, many of these areas where they had been used had been made by unsuccessful companies and they became signs of being in one of the outer rings' slums.

Today, Ringo Tatsuki found herself walking through one such slum. The smell of the garbage and litter on the street wafted into her nose and she could feel the people on the street staring at her with cold dead fish-like stares. It was not a place where one should have been walking alone ... even for Ringo who was no common woman. In fact, as Ringo was walking, she noticed that groups of residents were sneakily gathering behind her as animals do when prey enters their territory.

However, most of the inhabitants who gathered were actually gathering because they were overwhelmed by Ringo's elegance of and were stunned by the presence of royalty walking through the slums. As she passed by, the reactions of residents could easily be divided into three distinct reactions.

There were those who became aware of her presence and ran, those who watched only to go back to their goings-on, satisfied as she passed, and those who noticed her and sneakily pursued her. Ringo walked in a way that looked very normal, but she subtly changed speeds at random as she walked. Those following her who tried to keep up had trouble doing so because of this and when they attacked her, she had already detected their presence because of their footsteps and when they tried to attack they missed because they misjudged her speed. She was able to subdue them with ease. She was also able to distinguish snipers and people tracking her this way.

"Hmm... There are no snipers ... but the amount of harassment I'm getting on this route is exactly as expected... ..." Ringo muttered with a sigh. "If I was Seto I wouldn't have to deal with this... ..."

Seto's overwhelming atmosphere could sap the will to attack out of just about anyone. It was getting late, and a ruffian lunged at her once more, she did a sweep with her legs that caused her attacker to trip and roll ahead of her. He landed in front of a nearby crowd of local people who were lurking ahead of her. They noticed the woman standing in front of them was no ordinary woman and their faces distorted and they soon ran away screaming. Ringo let out a sigh as she watched them run. She didn't like being this way, she found it unpleasant. The sight of people running away from you in fear was not a very pleasant sight for a young woman to experience. And the screaming part hurt her feelings.

"There's no reason for them to be so afraid ... ." Ringo wasn't the type to engage in unnecessary bloodshed. It was inconvenient for her, and she didn't like the thought of the rumors it would cause to be whispered about her. "... ... they haven't done anything yet." She said, distracted by the container building in front of her. She had reached her destination.

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"Damn it, we're fucked... badly! God fucking damn it! FUCK!!!" Inside the building in the office room that read "the president's office", a middle-aged man was beating his desk and yelling. No one would imagine that a room like this could be found in such a slum, it was filled with nice expensive furniture and the interior was clean and neat.

The man's name was Ian Northern - the head of this company. "Damn it, FUCKING FUCK!" For Ian, this was the first time since he was born that he felt this frustrated.

"Mr. President ... ... We have some good news," said one of the two women standing by his desk. One was clearly a secretary of some sort.

"We managed to buy up the Widow account before anyone else could!"

Ian was happy with this. "Good."

“That is not all! A copy of the report that woman submitted to the GP was also available, it was a miracle we were able to get it.”

Ian stared at the file her secretary handed him. “Yes, hmm, let me look at this... ... holy crap ... ...”

“That's right! I never thought she would have had so much money ...”

Ian’s company was responsible for properly disbursing things that were left in peoples’ wills and he had gotten Widows case. They managed to find a huge supply of frozen sperm and egg samples from many planets and regions among the large number of containers that she had left. From the description left by widow, they were gathered for medical research.

“I don't know what she was thinking. That is a weird collection for anyone to have, I don't really think I want to know why she had it either...But that's our key to getting this done.”

Widow had many victims, as could be seen just by the volume of the frozen specimens. Judging from the report on Widow, anyone whose samples had been collected had long been dead.

“If any of the fertilized eggs were fertilized before Widow’s arrest, the fertilized egg will be treated as a victim's inheritor. Although this is going to be a real hassle, from the report Widow gave the academy, the situation we’re in seems to be that there are almost no people qualified to be heir to the victims’ assets, there is a high possibility that compensation won't be possible... .... “

But even the minimum amount of compensation that someone would receive from Widow's astronomical assets would have been enough to fully fund Ian's entire company for over ten years.

“Hey Mr. President. Someone is coming this way. I think they're a client, what should I do?” A muscular bodyguard came in and said.

“Do you know who the person is?”

“What? ... No.” The bodyguard showed him the holo terminal of the feed from the outside. Ian stared at the image of Ringo walking through the slum. He stared at the sight with a surprised expression. Those who came to Ian came by two routes. There was a safe special route for customers and the route through this slum that uninvited guests used. People coming by slum route usually arrived in special armored cars with bodyguards for safety. A person walking to him alone, let alone a young woman who looked like Ringo coming on foot was unheard of.

“... ... Hey those are Juraian clothes,” the bodyguard noticed.

“That's Ringo Tatsuki of the Juraian royal family.”

“The royal family of Jurai!?” The bodyguard’s expression changed to shock.

“The Devil Princess of Jurai must have sent her hyenas when she heard we got the account.”

“She's from the Devil Princesses’ Hyena Unit ..... Ah!” the bodyguard panicked.

“Don't panic, we’ll be fine, just don't call her a member of the hyenas to her face.”

“Gotcha.” The bodyguard turned red and corrected his posture.

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Shortly before Ringo arrived at Ian's company, she passed by three people in an alley. They were using a small makeshift stove to cook a can of soup. The three dirty looking people sat looking down in anticipation.

“What are we doing here!?” Barry, one of the three operators who had taken Seina to the academy whined sadly.

Cohen cried as he looked at the awful meal.

“There's no point in dwelling on the past, what's done is done.” Alan said pouring the soup into three cups. “Okay! Well then, shall we?”

But Barry blocked him from eating. He had noticed that Alan had gotten an extra piece of meat in his cup, so instead of eating they got into a fight. The three of them had spent all the money they had made from the Ryoko Fan club on frivolous things and now they were broke and fighting.

“Well maybe if you hadn't spent all our money on girls we wouldn't be here.”

“AHHHHHHHHHHHHH!” They accidentally knocked over the cups as they argued. They cups to the ground and all the soup spilled out leaving only the piece of meat in Alan's cup. It was less than a cubic centimeter in size. As the three scrambled to be the first to get the meat, a rat like creature ran out and grabbed it and ran off.

“Well... that sucks ... ...” Five minutes later the three who were collapsed on the floor from hunger noticed the strange excitement coming from the people around them and gazed up to see Ringo walking by.

“.... Those are Juraian clothes,” said Alan as he spied on Ringo. Alan got a look in is his eyes and an odd smile on his face.

“Hey Alan ... ... You're not thinking of mugging her are you...?”

“No don't be ridiculous... we don't want to make Jurai our enemy.”

“Then...what are you thinking?” Barry asked.

“Think carefully, we are acquainted with the Jurai royal family right, we know Minaho Masaki Jurai ... ... No, even better, were acquainted with Seto. We even helped save everyone from the

pirate crisis right?" Alan had a bad habit of over exaggerating and Barry and Cohen had even worse habits of getting caught up in his over exaggerations.

"Yeah! That's right!"

"We are benefactors of Jurai! If we tell her, she'll help us get out of here!"

"We should be welcomed as heroes to Jurai!"

They imagined how Ringo would bow to them and welcome them and then they imagined the hospitality they would receive.

"Let's go! To the road of new glory!"

"YEAH!" The three walked out from the shady alley towards Ringo.

"GRAAAAAAaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!!" A big carnivorous beast jumped out before they could talk to her. It chased them and they ran for their lives. They ran screaming all the way out of the container slums and they were found 3 hours later by a group of former fan club members.

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"Hold on a second and I will get you some tea." An employee told Ringo as she was led into Ian's office.

The moment Ringo stepped into Ian's office the atmosphere changed. Her overwhelming sunniness illuminated the darkness of the stagnant and gloomy room. The woman in front of them did not match what they expected of someone from something referred to as the "Hyena Corps". She had an elegant and aristocratic atmosphere about her that stunned Ian and the bodyguard. Ian was the first to get his composure back.

"Well then, let's get started. Why are you here?"

Ringo sat down on the sofa in his office. As she walked over to it the bodyguard noticed that her demeanor was hiding her true power. He had the urge to escape and couldn't keep his

eyes off of the door which was his only potential route of escape. Ringo handed the secretary some documents and she handed them to Ian.

"……this is!" Ian looked over the documents received from the secretary and was surprised. "Time is money ..... I think that in this case that is especially true, don't you?" Ian turned down his eyes to the document again to confirm its content. There was an order to transfer over the genetic sample collection with an estimate for compensation that had been carefully calculated by Ringo's department. It was almost the same as the commission Ian had calculated he would have made when he took the account. Ian was intimidated by this offer, but Ringo's disposition calmed him down. He decided that getting down to business was the best approach.

(Well, it's a reasonable price ... but ... ...) The gene specimens were as good as garbage. There was no doubt in his mind that there was no person left alive who was qualified to receive them or any of the compensation that went with them. The most that could happen with them was someone trying to make a fake claim for the money. He didn't know why their notoriously stingy accounting department was willing to give him so much to take the case off his hands.

"Time is money, Mr. North." Ringo reminded him.

He found no reason why he should object and the idea of forging a positive connection with the imperial family outweighed the idea of haggling to get more out of them. So, he quickly agreed to the contract. "I understand. Let's do this."

"But Mr. President!" His secretary said. He could tell his secretary wanted to ask them for more money, but he raised his hand to restrain his secretary from objecting further.

"Don't be rude ... ." he said to his secretary who promptly dropped the issue.

"I know this is unexpected and sudden, but I would like to ask for delivery of goods," Ringo said.

Ian's desk began to beep. "Excuse me." A small ring-shaped voice monitor was launched next to Ian's ear.

"I am ..... I understood. Don't worry that Juraian ship is fine there. No need to worry about it."

"I appreciate your quick response." Ringo said. She stood up to shake his hand on the deal. Ian reflexively stood up and shook her hand.

"Oops!" He was so nervous he had forgot to wipe his sweaty palms. But Ringo didn't mind.

"Well then I will excuse myself." said Ringo. She quickly turned back around. "Oh yes, I nearly forgot." She took out a letter from her boss and offered it to Ian. "I hope that we can keep doing business with you in the future." Ringo made a small bow and walked towards the door. But she was blocked by the woman who had greeted her when she had come in. The woman looked a bit startled and disheveled as if she had panicked.

“I uh, um, I ... hum...Tea, I got that tea .....” she said panicked.

“Well, I was going to go home, but I guess I can have some tea.”

“Why did it take you so long to get it?” Ian asked.

“Sorry, sir,” she apologized

Ringo hid her mouth with her sleeve and laughed while gazing at the drooling female employee. There weren't many opportunities for normal people to come in contact with the Juraian Royal Family. In a way, it was an even rarer opportunity then meeting a celebrity. She had probably just been outside the door the whole-time panicking.

“Thank you for the tea. I'm in a bit of a hurry today, but the next time I see you I'll bring some tea of my own and pay back the favor.” Ringo smiled, quickly downed the tea, and left.

“Uhm ... ... Mr. President, are you ok? What is that?” The secretary asked Ian about the letter.

“Oh, it's nothing” He was surprised that Ringo hadn't recoiled from his sweaty hands. But her hands that seemed feminine at first felt uncommonly calloused for those of the privileged. Ian remembered the feel of her hands from somewhere. “... ... her hands remind me of my mothers.”

Like many others, Ian had left a life of hardship in his hometown as a young man and came to the academy in search of success. He used to hate the feel of hands like that until eventually he found his own hands in much the same condition. He found it interesting that woman who shouldn't know such hardship had such hands.

“... ... Mr. President were you really satisfied with that deal?” His secretary asked.

Ian ignored her and opened the letter Ringo had handed to him. “Ha.... hahaha.... hahahaha... ... Huhahaha”

“Mr. President?”

Ian silently passed to letter to the secretary.

“!?……Th-This is!!”

“It's quite a reward, there's no mistaking its authenticity.”

“Ah, that ... ... that is it ...” his bodyguard said glancing at it in panic.

“That's ... ... that's a recommendation letter to the MMD Foundation”

“The MMD Foundation?”

“Originally it was a foundation established to manage patent fees of philosophers, you have probably heard about the story surrounding it before. The patents held by the Philosophy Department account for something like 10% of the patents filed in the Galaxy. Although about

half of it goes back into research, the rest is used to operate a medium sized chain of planetary wide banks and of course a legendary philosopher, like Washu Hakubi, earns enough in patent fees to buy every bank in the galaxy."

"... ... because of that, competition in investments between philosophers became a problem, and so a foundation was created to collectively manage it."

"Ha ... ... so what are you going to do with the money? Stocks or investments ...?"

"Well, there is no point in investing in the foundation, the investment's they make are restricted to within the academy, and the scholarship fund of the Academy and the funding of research for philosophy students."

"Huh ... but how does that relate to this recommendation letter?"

"What... are you saying, this is a trick?" The secretary said suddenly snapping back to sanity.

"Even if that's the case. The result of the research invested in it had produced enormous profits in the past, even after the scholarship winners graduated, many even demonstrated their excellence and became CEOs and government officials."

"Maybe their general scope of investing has expanded ...?"

"Huh ... ... well you have to understand, The MMD is a super mega-bank that has high possibility of taking over the current banking system ... ... and you have to become a member to receive loans from them or trade stock through them, and you need another member's recommendation to join."

"But ... ... Do we even need such a thing?" The bodyguard said half joking. But it was enough to put a brake on Ian's thrilled mood.

"It is important to be a member of MMD because it increases the availability of investment opportunities. Members of the MMD can purchase the stocks of any big company."

However, the secretary was still enamored by the situation. "Wow, that's amazing!"

"The reliability of the MMD is tremendous!" Ian said. Contrary to his words his enthrallment from receiving the letter had waned and he had gained his composure back. (Hmm...Reliability .....) Ian thought about the royal family of Jurai and wondered what Ringo's angle was...

"Let's apply for membership immediately, so our company can join the top-ranked companies ... ... huh... what's wrong?" His secretary asked, noticing Ian was lost deep in thought.

(This is too strange, something is wrong) Ian thought. "I hope that we can keep doing business with you in the future". Ian suddenly remembered Ringo's words from earlier. He remembered that because of this he would be able to deal directly with Jurai from now on...

Ian looked at the letter of recommendation he had received. (The letter of recommendation is only good for applying to join but it doesn't guarantee it...) Ian couldn't even believe he had been given a chance to join the MMD. (If that's the case, why did she hand out a letter of recommendation to me? Recommending a person and not just giving them membership..... It's like we're being tested..... Ah!) Ian noticed something. "... ... ... Stop."

"What?"

"I will take care of this for now." Ian said and then he threw the letter of recommendation into the shredder.

"What are you doing?" His secretary panicked and ran to the shredder.

"There's more to this letter then just joining the MMD, the estimate she brought was worth a mountain of treasure, and we should explore that line of trade first before we go through the MMD." He had gotten the right answer to Ringo's test - Ian was right in this and was filled with exhilaration.

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"Please do not leave yet Princess. The samples are still on their way." Todo, her elderly butler said, greeting Ringo as he came out from the transfer pod of Honoka, Ringo's ship.

"Sorry to trouble you, but at least it seems like everything's going according to plan."

"It looks like it is, but you never know with such a company..."

"That's just what someone who works as Seto's accountant would say."

"Todo, the expenses used in the previous strategy were enormous, but the rate of wear in using Seina is nearly zero, the capture rate so far is exceeding expectations ..... The cost effectiveness of using him is a miraculous thing, and that's not all. There are many benefits brought about by his presence that have become a tremendous benefit not only for Jurai but also for the Galactic Federation. 60% of the war expenses that were supposed to be used in the previous strategy and all the money set aside for incentives for space pirate bounties can all be considered surplus money now and being able to be confident about our expenses lets us solve the problem of future capture costs as long as it there aren't any urgent states of emergency that arise."

"Yes, that sounds very good." Todo said.

"Since Jurai was the one who captured all the pirates directly we were able to hide the reward amount we were giving Seina, but the circumstances are different this time. Widow's assets have been forecast to be quite large for some time and there are also huge publicly announced bounties on her from all over the galaxy. When Widow's arrest is announced and it goes to trial, Widows' report will be absolute proof that Seina Yamada is her heir and the one who captured

her. There will be no way for us to hide those huge assets from him or the public. They will all know where that money is going and how much it is."

"I didn't even think about that."

Not only was a large amount of money going to Seina, but also a large amount of jealousy and resentment from those who would become aware of it. Ringo had to make sure that Ian was not one of those people.

"Yamada Seina is a person with a particularly high negative probability bias, so even if it involves taking a small upfront monetary loss, it is better to do so to make sure to prevent any harm coming to him later."

"I understand, but are you ok with this business taking care of it?"

To Todo's question, Ringo smiled. "Well, the tracer in the letter of recommendation I gave them has gone dead, they seem to be a more trustworthy business than I thought ... If they were after the money... ... ... they would have haggled with us or tried to find someone willing to pay a slightly higher price for the Widow account."

"So, are you planning to potentially use them as scapegoats if something wrong happens due to Seina?"

If a small company like them got enormous incentives from helping Seina, there was a possibility that some of the people who would make trouble for Seina would go after Ian's company instead and it would be easier for Jurai and the academy to deal with that then it would be for Seina's guard team.

"You see, if a situation like that arrives then our large payment would actually turn out to be quite the deal for us. But perhaps there may be things that Seina will need help with from time to time so if they can help us for now, we both win. Anyways, what happened to surveying the delivery route, are there any reports that I should know about?"

"Oh yes. Actually, jurisdiction over that has shifted over to Mikami's intelligence department."

(What, why? Nothing about this was submitted to her department) Ringo thought to herself. "Well then, let's leave it to her I guess..... If she hadn't been the one who widow had given her testimony to, it would probably still be in our jurisdiction..."

Although Ringo, who was the chief of the accounting department, always had a high workload even at normal times. Todo was worried about Ringo who had hardly slept for the last few days.

"Well ....." Todo knew what Ringo wanted to say even though he didn't say it. Ringo was lost in thought though as he had reminded her of when Widow and Mikami met with each other.

"... ...." just thinking of it gave Ringo goose bumps. She shook her head to expel that feeling from her memory and tried to analyze Widow as calmly as possible. Widow couldn't imagine the true

meaning of having half of her huge assets going to one person. First, that human's life would be greatly changed. And the same thing would happen to the people around him.

“... ... But even if she knew it .... I know she'd still have testified ... .” Widow said she wished to provide for Seina.

“That is the most important thing for Widow, even if it could push Seina-sama into ruin, she won't withdraw her testimony.”

“She's exactly like her name. A Widower.”

“... ... Although she did not seem to expect Seina to be her downfall.”

“No, of course not, she is a terrible person ... to predict something like him ... seems to be a thing outside the scope of her imagination.”

“I hear being in her presence feels a lot like being around Lady Seto.”

“I am not directly acquainted with Yamada Seina, but from what I've seen of him on video recordings, he seems to be just an ordinary boy ...”

“Huh, you may be onto something there.”

“What does someone like Lady Seto or Widow see in such a person?”

Of course, it was certain that Seina's skillfully high “probability bias” had some influence on their reaction, but it was obvious Todo had a theory of his own on what affected them. “With people like Seto... ... especially those with outstanding abilities, I think it may be a case of Seina not having the qualities they think of an enemy of theirs having more that any innate ability he has. It seems that there is a tendency to appreciate and respect that aspect of him, from what I hear Widow has described Seina's purity as a weapon.”

“Is it his purity? .... It must be if a woman who is feared like she was a plague or a god of death is calling him a “weapon.”

“For people like them, he is a strong poison,” Todo said when suddenly…

“Aaaa

“You sure were in an odorous place with lots of smelly people. Eww and you smell of cheap perfume .....” Nene said moving around Ringo sniffing as she described things about the events that had happened to Ringo as if she were there. Nene had a sharp sense of smell. She could even tell what kind of emotions the people she met had. Of course, she could also smell all the garbage of the slum and it was beyond her range of acceptable stenches as Ringo had expected.

“Why didn't you take me with you? Why are you going to such a bad, dirty and smelly dangerous place?! Why and what is thaaaat~~~~?!” Once again, she sniffed something beyond her tolerance range and became confused.

Ringo sprayed a mist of perfume at Nene.

“Hmmm?” Nene who was concentrating on the smell got distracted.

“... ... I had enough to deal with without taking you with me.” If she had taken Nene to the container slum, she would surely have gotten confused by the smells of the area and gotten violent and probably would have tried burning the neighborhood down.

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Ringo ran to her room to take a bath where she was greeted by her maids. “If Nene comes, tell her I'm taking a bath and send her off somewhere.” She said as she hurriedly took off her clothes and rushed into the bathroom. The maid smiled bitterly at Ringo throwing off her clothes which were made of ultra-expensive Juraian silk as she carefully folded them.

After finishing a quick deodorization, Ringo came out from a shower pod and walked outside over to a large expansive open-air bath built in the hills. (Well I haven't heard anything from Todo. Nene must have returned to sanity) She thought as she gazed at the scenery around her.

She saw forests and grasslands spreading all over and lakes and hills and a few houses and ranches in the distance. Although the area around her was quite small compared to other royal tree ships. In the center, was a huge tree nearly a kilometer high. It was a typical subspace layout one would expect from a royal tree ship.

“The subspace space habitat seems to have stabilized considerably.” Ringo's ship ‘Honoka’ was originally a fourth-generation ship, but Washu had modified it so it had gained power comparable to a third generation ship. And well ... ...,

“Ringo! Ringo! Mama's home!”

A twin crystal shaped like a heart appeared before Ringo’s eyes, from which Honoka’s happy voice emanated. Her ship had been given a will of its own by giving it the same kind of crystal core system as Ryo-Ohki.

“It's good to see you too.” Ringo stood in a bath of hot water when, “That was fast. I just received the specimen container.” Washu said on a monitor that appeared before Ringo.

“Did you find what you were looking for?”

“Well, I'll let you get settled before we talk business.” Washu’s monitor moved down close to the surface of the bath.

“Thank you,” Ringo slowly and elegantly entered the hot spring.

“Mama, Ma Ma,” Honoka, who was on Ringo's shoulder, jumped happily around the monitor where Washu was displayed.

Honoka's real mother was a third generation tree, but Imperial Tree's didn't really have much of a concept of motherhood. But, Honoka had imprinted Tsunami's sister goddess, Washu as her mother since it had gained a will of its own.

“Honoka-chan sure has developed quite a lot of emotions,” Washu said.

“Well, yes, but I have only recently become able to understand them ..... Hey Honoka-chan, I have some important stories to share with Ms. Washu and I need some privacy. Could you leave us alone for a while?

“Just for a little bit?”

“Yes, and if there is something important, please come and let me know.”

“... .... Ok, I understand,” Honoka said and left.

“……Hmm... It seems to still be working. And it’s pretty emotionally balanced. ... The other 4th generation upgrade experiments didn't turn out so well.”

“They didn't...?”

“No, everyone else had to stop the experiment ..... And I don't think there will be any more.” Washu was looking uneasy about what happened with the other trees.

“So, did something go wrong?”

“In the end, the experiment's success is likely to be all up to Honoka chan. If you raise her right, she will become strong like a 3rd generation ship.”

“So... like Noike's Kyoko?”

“Hopefully... ... By the way, I found what I was looking for. Thank you for your work, you saved me quite the hassle.”

“No, it was nothing, I am honored to serve you, Ms. Washu.” Ringo hadn't been told specifically what Washu was looking for. All she knew was that 'it' was related to the gene collection.

“Hahaha, well, you’re thank you anyways. So, should I put the award into your personal account?”

“No, I'd like it put in the usual account at the MMD Foundation.” When Ringo said ‘the usual account’ she meant the account behind Seto's funds for various shadow activities. The confidentiality of the MMD far exceeded that of the banks on the national level, and the assets it held were so numerous that it was hard to keep track of what went where. It was a great place to deal with a confidential activity's expenses, as it was possible to destroy its records immediately if there was a request for them, no matter how urgent it was.

“I'd hate to put it there. This is a thank you for you alone Ringo.”

“Well there will always be a next time, so I don't mind.”

“I can't just give you nothing.”

“Okay ... well if that's the case, then Washu... may I ask you a question instead of receiving a reward?”

Washu, was a legend, and was held as a goddess as far as her knowledge was concerned, not only in the academy but also in the Galactic Federation. To be able to ask questions of Washu was worth more than any amount of money could ever do for Ringo.

“A question .... I guess, if you don't mind not getting paid, but why? If you don't mind me asking.”

“My question to you Ms. Washu needs to be kept strictly confidential, even Seto cannot know... and because the consultation fee is so expensive... I think that that is reason enough to keep it confidential.”

“What are you talking about Ringo? We’re Friends, questions are free.”

“……Oh, thank you.” Ringo shuddered from Washu telling her she considered her a friend.

“You choreographed this mission for me so well, it's the least I can do.”

Washu was still officially missing. As a result, Seto's accountant and some aides had to assist her by carrying out this mission. As Accounting Manager, Ringo had more contact with Washu than anyone else involved in this visit to Ian.

'So, what is it that you want to ask?”

“Actually ... I was talking with the others in the accounting department the other day and I was wondering ... What does the MMD in the MMD Foundation mean?”

“Huh?” Washu was taken aback but she knew someday she would be asked this question.

“Washu, I know you were involved in founding the MMD, do you know what it stands for?”

“Oh, that…… Hahaha. That's quite a strange question.”

“Yes but it has become a major controversy between the various departments here and there. We even asked Seto, she just said, “I don't know, I don't know! I really do not know! I swear I don't know... ASK THE MMD president! And he said only you would know.”

“I see.”

“If it is something inappropriate, you do not have to answer, but ... ...” Ringo said, her eyes glistened like puppy that wanted her owner to take her on a walk.

“Certainly, this is a question worthy of a reward ... ... is what I would like to say. However, it's pretty lame! You sure you want to ask me? You might regret it.”

“Yes!”

“Good!” Washu said nodding at Ringo's answer. She exhaled a deep sigh. “Well first off, we should talk about something ... ... Ringo, who was the first president of the MMD?”

“I have heard that Ikuma-sama was, he was also your teacher, wasn't he?”

“Oh, yes I knew him very well. He was also Naja's teacher.”

“I have heard about her from Seto, ... but Washu-sama you're a legend ... ... second only to.... uhm,” Ringo ended her sentence early because the second most famous was Dr. Clay.

“Haha ... ... well she liked to stay under the radar and work from the background. But it's only thanks to Professor Ikuma that Naja and I were able to get where we are today,” she muttered with a nostalgic look.

“I respected him greatly. For me and Naja, Professor Ikuma was like a father. That's why Naja got the acronym MMD from something Professor Ikuma said, which triggered the establishment of MMD.”

“Really? It must have been really important...” Ringo said impressed, but she noticed a tone in Washu's words that were in-congruent with something impressive.

“But if such an important phrase ..... why wasn't it made public? Why not engrave it on a large plate at the MMD headquarters, wouldn't it make a great decoration?”

“Ah ha ha, on an engraved plate ..... uhuhuhuhuhu,” Washu laughed maniacally.

“So, ... What was it?” She couldn't wait for Washu's next words.

“Hahahaha..... Ikuma said, “Everyone Remember, Don't Waste Money”.”

* * * **Translators’ note: In Japanese this phrase initials are MMD for Minna Mudazukaishicha Damedazo. * * ***

“.....” Ringo stared at Washu with a stunned face for what seemed like 5 minutes. She wracked her brain trying to figure out what the phrase meant.

“Did you hear me? Ringo-chan?”

“Everyone Remember ... ... Don't waste money ....?” she murmured to herself trying to make sense of the phase.

“It's no use thinking about it so deeply. As I said, we took the initials of that phrase and got the letters MMD.”

“Are you kidding me?”

“I'm serious.”

“Really?”

“It’s absolutely true. Hehe, Naja had a stupid sense of humor in naming things.”

“No, seriously! .... Are you sure?”

“Yes, seriously.”

“Well judging from the records on Naja's... there are many descriptions of things like that...” The great thing about time was that only your major accomplishments remained on record. Naja kept a lot about her everyday life and “hobbies” off book.

*** * * Translators’ note: For those of you who never read my translations of True Tenchi, Kajishima uses the word Hobbies in place of fetishes. * * ***

But something’s got through. However, unlike those stories which were mostly rumors, this example of her humor was coming directly from Washu.

“The MMD may be a famous foundation now, but at the beginning of the establishment it was just a private institution for money management.”

“Although now it has so much money that the other banks worry about it ruining their business situation.”

“The amount of money it has is irrelevant. The philosophy of the MMD that it has operated under since it was established is well, according to the words of Professor Ikuma ... ... to operate as if you only had access to an allowance from your mother.”

(That astronomical amount of money treated like a child's allowance... ... Haha, that's absurd!) Ringo laughed, but she understood. The academy was formed to pursue knowledge and invention, profit was just a nice side effect of that. “But Washu-sama, if what you are saying is right, why is its name such a secret?”

“Well, about that engraved plate you mentioned earlier... “

“Oh, yes, if you want I can have one made...”

“Yeah, well about that..... Actually, we did that... or rather Naja did.”

“Did she mess it up or something?”

Actually, Professor Ikuma didn't know that we used his phrase and when we went to unveil it.... he was so mad he jammed a pen up Naja's butt.

“... ... HE.... WHAT ...!?” Ringo realized that this was a public event so this must have caused an uproar kind of like when Azusa first came to Jurai and called Seto a shitty old hag on live TV.

“Lucky for him Naja had left the academy by then to do her own things, so technically she was self-employed so Ikuma didn't have to deal with any problems over accusations of sexually harassing her, he wasn't even charged with assault. In fact no one really saw it because her butt wasn't facing the audience.”

“... ... then why was it such a problem?”

“Well since you’re asking... Naja went afterwards and spoke to each the attendees herself to make sure there was no problem! “

“Hold on ..... There were quite a few people there, how did she manage that...”

“Ringo. Don't underestimate a philosopher like Naja. I could talk to till end of the universe on the subject, if you really want to know what she was like... “Washu said, and then she got serious. The atmosphere around her changed as if she was about to tell a ghost story. A tremendous pressure emanated from the monitor.

“.....”

“.....”

Eventually that incident was forgotten about, but it was not through Naja's efforts,” she said in a spooky way.

“It must have been awfully embarrassing to be pen penetrated in public ... .”

“Hmm? Oh well you'd never know it was embarrassing by the way Naja talked about it. For the first three months after that it was all she ever talked about.” Washu said as her spooky tone completely vanished.

“But still, we had to run around extinguishing rumors for quite a while, but eventually it just stopped...”

“Haha ... ... But Naja passed away ... and you've been missing for quite a long time why do you still want to hide the abbreviations meaning?”

“Well just because it's no longer being talked about now doesn't mean it would stay that way if I told someone what the name meant. I'd just be dragged into telling this story over and over again like we are now...” Suddenly the connection with Washu cut out.

“Washu? ... . Washu-sama! What's going on? Please answer me!”

“... There might be other reasons” said Seto who abruptly appeared on screen. Her screen was lit as if she was telling a ghost story and lightning clapped in the background.

“Aaaaaaaaaah!” Ringo who was surprised, jumped back and hit the back of her head against the ceiling. She collapsed to the floor holding her aching head.

“Oh no, that looked painful... are you okay?”

“..., oh Seto-sama, it's you!” Ringo said with tears in her eyes.

“Your landing was a bit off, but I appreciate your attempts to bribe the judge. Eighty five points,” Seto held up her thumb and stuck it out while nodding satisfactorily.

“What, what are you talking about?”

“Airi told me that a large fortune has been put into my account, under my complete control. I'm rather excited about that so I figured I’d call. I didn't expect you'd be having wardrobe malfunction though.”

“AH!” Ringo hurriedly pulled up her bathing clothes. And used her hands to conceal her breasts.

“Seto-sama you're worse than an old perv.”

“I feel like an old perv.” Seto said right before Washu came back onto screen pushing Seto off screen

“... ... you two were making fun of me, weren’t you?” Ringo asked.

“I can see how you might think that...but ... it's all true. Although Naja tried to hide it. It was actually professor Ikuma that stopped the rumor. Unfortunately for him by the time the incident occurred the MMD initials were already registered and we had already begun to operate under

them so he had no choice but to learn to tolerate them but the plate makers were another story....”

“Well, I'm sorry to have to say this, Ms. Washu, but I must excuse myself I have to get back to work now, thank you for telling me that story.”

“Ok, just remember this story is confidential.”

“Mama, Mama!” Honoka cried out, she had been waiting for Ringo to stop talking to Washu so she could talk to Washu.

“Honoka-chan. How have you been doing? It's almost time to give you a checkup isn't it?”

“Yay!”

Ringo got out of the bath and let the two talk.

*** * * Translators’ note: So, if you didn't get all that, Washu and Naja established a SUPER MEGA Swiss style bank that can be used for untraceable transactions and accounts that can have their records destroyed in the blink of an eye. Seto most definitely still enjoys a nice pair of boobs. And Washu fixed up some of the 4th generation ships to work like 3rd but all the experiments failed except, presumably, Noike’s ship Kyoko and Ringo's ship Honoka.**

4th generation ships can't generate a subspace interior it seems, but once they get an AI interface that makes them sentient, it seems they can. This happens around the end of OVA 3 but before 4 so logically one can assume that Washu may have also made Kyoko's terminal enhancement and that means after ‘Here Comes Jurai’ she made enhancements for Jurai despite saying she wouldn't, so ... that's odd.

Also Seto is Naja (not revealed here but known) and Naja and Washu established the MMD, so logically the MMD could be a part of Seto's information gathering network and could be a big part of why she has so much Intel.

Because people think it's like the Swiss Bank, but the devil princess actually owns it much like how Washu and Naja had the entire academy bugged so they knew about everyone's secret research. Also they were able to cover up how much Seina had made from the captures made due to him during his first two days in space but they can't do that with Widows inheritance and bounty and so now he might have to face bad luck from resentment towards his newly acquired wealth. * * *

Chapter Two: You can buy it but only for a short while

*** * * Translators' note: This is 11:30 into episode 7. * * ***

In the cruiser from last time, Seina and the others were sitting around a table as Kiriko explained that Seina had caused the academy-wide system malfunction.

"So that computer trouble was my fault ....?" He was a little bit shocked.

"It's true that your escape was a trigger, but it was the complex network of mistakes from each department that made the whole thing a huge fuss," Kiriko said.

"This wouldn't have happened if I hadn't escaped then would it ... So, I'm just a bother to everyone after all ..." Seina said.

"The dorm escape is an old academy tradition. Everyone does it, that's half of why no one responded to it at first," Amane said brightly trying to encourage the now depressed Seina.

Yes, Amane is right ... And the root cause of the damage spreading so far was that the system engineers were lazy, so they've kept the old outdated overly complicated system that they've had in place since the early days of the academy. Thanks to you, the many complicated and poorly connected systems are now unified and on top of that we caught many dangerous criminals. Besides, it wasn't even close to the biggest uproar the academy's experienced." Erma joined in trying to lighten the tone.

"... ... ... Oh yeah ... come to think of it weren't the people around you acting quite calmly that night?" Amane asked.

Seina remembered the festival in the city that night. "... yeah, Kenneth said that festival was normal, but ... That air ship battle sort of blended in with the festival."

"Ahaha, you thought it was part of the festival?" Amane laughed.

"Hehe, yeah."

"... ... It's not a laughing matter, even though the results were good, the actual damage caused was enormous, it's still causing troubles in various places ..." Kiriko said lashing out.

"Oh... sorry."

"Ah, no, it's not like that Seina, Seina ... I didn't mean it like that, and I just meant that Amane isn't taking it seriously uhm ... ..." Kiriko said apologizing. "From what I hear from Erma, you weren't entirely innocent yourself in the situation."

"Why are you bringing me into this?" Erma wondered.

"..... well actually, that's true... sorry Seina... I may have had a bit to do with that night myself."

“What do you mean?”

“Oh, you didn't know? Seina only had trouble getting to the air car because Kiriko went around controlling all the guard drones and setting them off.”

“..... That was you controlling that ...?”

“Well yes, but ... I ... uhm ... I thought it might be dangerous for you if you went into town,” Kiriko said turning red.

“... So Seina, it was actually a complicated net of mistakes not just you.”

“Ha ha ... ... I understand.”

“Even Erma, was responsible to a degree. I'm surprised she isn't facing any punishment.”

“Luckily for me, Seina's data led to us finding Washu's hidden server, so my sins have all been forgotten.”

“I see.”

“Well, for the time being though we've made it a priority to figure out how your probability bias works.”

A Bing sounded.

“Have we arrived already .....? I hadn't even realized the ship was moving...”

“This ship travels extra smoothly, but I don't have time to explain, let's hurry, we have a lot to buy.” Kiriko said quickly jumping out.

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They arrived at a large department store that spread far and wide.

Kiriko began picking out items for Seina's new room and asked him to pick between various brands. They didn't actually put things in a cart as they looked but rather, they placed an order on a holo-screen digitally to have their order delivered directly to them when they were done. The store was merely there to examine the items in person even though it was stocked like a normal store would have been.

Seina had trouble picking out items as he didn't know any of the brands and if they weren't scented he didn't know one from the other. He also felt obligated to get the cheaper brands because he was unaware of how much money he actually had, although Kiriko advised him that he could still get them but that he shouldn't waste them.

Amane giggled at the sight of the two of them and told them that they looked like two newlyweds. Kiriko froze up when she heard this. She looked around and noticed there were newlyweds all around them doing the exact same thing. Erma wanted to join in on the fun, so

she took Seina and did what Kiriko did, showing him some different soaps and explaining their different special properties. Amane scooped up Seina from her when she was done and did the same. Seina panicked, but luckily Kiriko regained her composure and yelled at both of them.

“Stop it. Let me do this. Even if you are familiar with Seina, you haven't ever lived with him you don't know him like I do! I've bathed him since he was a child, and I know how he likes his food made so LEAVE US ALONE ~~~! ..... “

“Ho ho ~ did you hear that, Erma?”

“Yes, with my own two ears.” Kiriko turned red again.

“Kiriko-san.”

“So... Seina, how about you get familiar with us?” Erma and Amane said rushing Seina from both sides pushing against him.

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“I won't forgive you for that!” Seiryo yelled as he barged in ruining the moment.

“What a nice place to run into you,” Amane said angrily.

Seiryo reeked of the ocean that Amane had made his car swerve into earlier.

“Ha ha ha, yes, that's a wonderful place! And a wonderful time for me to run into my beautiful fiancé being attacked by a primitive man from the frontier of space ... I, Seiryo Tennan ..... shall rescue you!” Seiryo spoke loudly and poetically. He struck a nerve in Amane with his speech, Seiryo began to speak loudly a string of lies skewed in his favor. But Amane endured the mental suffering.

“Amane, I am a proud member of the GP, and my guardian system is second to none. Why I even bet it's better than Ms. Masaki over here. I will defend you from this brute.”

“Oh no, but Seina and I are in love!” Amane said rubbing against Seina to tease Seiryo,

“..... And we've already made it to first base.”

“What?”

“Huh?”

“Eh?”

“You what?”

“WHEN!?” everyone but Amane said.

Seiryo was caught off guard.

“Hiyah!” Amane quickly gave a quick lower middle and high kick to Seiryo.

His guardian system shattered and roared out an unpleasant sound. She kicked him once more in the chest he flew into a square box on the wall.

“It disposed of him? That's odd usually they put safety devices in place for people... I guess Tennan must be a special case, that's amazing... who would ever want to disable the personal safety device?” Erma asked

“He is garbage! And garbage belongs in a garbage bag!” Amane said satisfied like she was reciting a slogan.

“WHAT DOES SHE MEAN BY K I S S I N G... YOU CAN TELL ME SEINA... BE HONEST..... I WON'T GET ANGRY.....” Kiriko said like a demon.

Seina panicked. He could feel Kiriko's anger emanating from her and his trouble sense was going crazy.

“SEIIIIINAAAAA!” Kiriko said growing angrier

“... .... I don't remember doing like that anything at all.” He said as Amane clung to him.

“Oh, you've forgotten?” Amane said making the situation worse. The blood vessels in Kiriko's temple throbbed violently. It was a danger signal that Seina knew all too well from seeing it many times in the past. Often towards those who bullied him.

“Uhm uh ah, a.... Amane .....” He said trying to warn her but she put her arms around his neck so he couldn't run away and came closer to his face. Kiriko's temple throbbed louder.

“Don't you remember... that time...?” She said stroking his chest with her fingers. And trailing up to his lips.

Kiriko sounded like she was about to burst a blood vessel.

Erma ran behind a shelf far away behind the scene and Seina tried to get away but was unable to. His fate was in god's hands now.

“... You remember when I did it, right? C...P...R...” she said looking towards Kiriko with a smile.

“Oh!” Kiriko and Seina realized both at the same time she meant what had happened on Earth at Tenchi's house. Seina was relieved the crisis was avoided. But the pent up crazy energy in Kiriko needed an exit.

“... ... AMAAAAAAAANE ..... LET HIM GO...”

“Yes, please do...” a polite voice from behind them said.

They looked around and noticed everyone in the store was watching them make a scene. The shoppers, the clerks, and even the manager were staring at them.

“ ... I'm sorry but I'm going to have to ask you to leave ... Your upsetting the other customers...” the manager told them.

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At the largest table at Nashisu, Kiriko browsed through the catalog of the store they had been kicked out of and picked out the rest of the items they needed for delivery on a monitor.

Seina was next to her and Erma was sitting on the other side. Amane was over at the counter a bit of the ways away from the table but she was coming back.

“We should go there again soon,” Amane said to Kiriko.

“It's not funny! We got kicked out because of you. That was my favorite shop, and now I'm too ashamed to ever go there again!”

“... ..... Wow really? You know there's another one on this street, right?” Amane said lowering her head towards Kiriko.

“.....” But Kiriko remained silent looking at the monitor.

Erma chimed in because she didn't want Kiriko to stay in the mood she was in. “Hey Kiriko, please forgive me already, I'm sorry.”

“It was all Amane's fault.”

“..... When I heard we were all going to be living together I thought it would be kind of fun but it turns out it seems like it's going to be pretty hectic after all...” Erma said scratching her head.

Kiriko looked at Seina and noticed he was happy at Erma saying she was looking forward to living together. Seina was used to people telling him they didn't want him anywhere near them. He liked being in space because he was finally needed and accepted by people there.

Kiriko dropped her mood upon seeing this look on his face. She just wanted Seina to be happy. She went back to picking out items.

“Let's all order at once, hey Seina, can you go to the kitchen and tell the lady to come and get our order? She likes to be called granny and she's really old, so when you call her it you should say it really loud. Got it? “

Seina stood up and felt doubtful about what he was about to do but he looked at Kiriko who wasn't paying attention and took her distraction to mean it was ok. He left his seat and headed to the kitchen. He noticed the tub of dirty dishes behind the counter next to the sink and was distracted by the amazing looking leftover food. (Wow ... it looks tasty, and it smells nostalgic somehow...) He noticed a woman wearing cooks clothes was working busily behind the counter but he couldn't see her face.

“Um ... ... excuse me.... granny.... could you please take our order?”

But she was busy and couldn't hear him over her work. So he yelled loudly. "EXCUSE ME GRANNY, I NEED TO PLACE AN ORDER ... ."

The woman who was wearing the cooking clothes stopped her work and turned her face slowly towards Seina.

"WHAT DID YOU SAY ~~~~~~~?" She said as if her voice was an earthquake vibrating up from the ground. The woman was clearly a very angry Airi.

Seina had fucked up. He tried to escape but like an eel she reached out at Mach speed and grabbed him by the shoulder, squeezing as if the devil himself was trying to rip out his heart. Seina tried to reach out towards his table for help but Amane just stood there laughing and waving to him while Kiriko kept staring at her monitor.

"Hey ..... Seina, I KNOW you know better than that." Airi said slowly bringing her face right up next to his, but he couldn't see her eyes, he was too scared to look into them but her red lips shined like blood. "... .... I'VE TOLD YOU NOT TO CALL ME GRANNY, NOW I WILL TEACH YOU NOT TO CALL ME GRANNY", Airi whispered in a cold paralyzing voice.

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Seina's face was covered with slap marks as he sat at the table writing in a book over and over again "I will not say granny anymore," as punishment.

"That was mean!" Kiriko said.

"Sorry, I couldn't help myself... ..." Amane said.

"You can stop now." Airi said bringing over a big tray of food and rice.

"You're the president of the academy ... why are you working at restaurant?" Seina asked.

"Once upon a time, I was asked to take care of this shop by the people who owned it, I learned cooking from them as a hobby."

"A hobby?"

“Someone once told me, “If you can make delicious food you can live anywhere.” Since then, no matter how busy I am, I always set aside time to cook.”

(Who would have expected the president of the Academy? To be so competent and homey..... That doesn't fit her personality at all...)

“..... Huh.... It looks like he's thinking something awfully rude again,” Airi said.

“Ah! ... ... No, I am busy admiring your ability to be president while also maintaining a shop .....”

“I'll accept your praise but only half of it, by the way have you been outside to the terrace yet? You should go have a look.”

Seina went outside to the terrace where he was overtaken by the sight outside.

“It's amazing isn't it?” Airi said laying out Seina's party's food on a table on the terrace.

“What is this, it seems unnatural... is it a crater?”

“Well it's not exactly a crater, a meteorite didn't make it. It was made by a runaway experiment. It's called Washu's pore.”

“Washu's pore? Washu ... .” Seina stopped himself he remembered he wasn't supposed to talk about Tenchi or his housemates.

Airi nodded at him to affirm that idea. “Come on, eat your food before it cools down.”

“Oh, yes.”

Everyone paid close attention to Seina as he took his first bite. He wondered what it would taste like. To his surprise though it tasted exactly like the food in Kiriko's house. “Ah! This is the taste of the food in Kiriko's house.”

“Well it should, the seasonings we use are all the same ones Airi does.”

“Wow ... is that so?” The meals the dorm had provided were good enough but he was glad to finally eat something that he was accustomed to it made the academy feel more like home.

“Come on, let's eat.”

“Yes, let's!” And with that they all dug in.

But their happiness didn't last long. Soon a damp trashy smelling glove hit Seina in the face and slid down onto his food. It was Seiryo.

“Seina Yamada, I challenge you to a dual!” Seiryo said seriously as garbage slid off of him.

“How dare you enter my shop in such a state!” Airi said. She was the first to attack. Her fist smashed right through Seiryo's guardian. Then she landed a swift blow to the back of his head.

Seiryo lost consciousness in an instant, his body slowly collapsed.

“Stop!” Amane insisted. Just like in the department store, she had set her anklet to maximum output and then she kicked Seiryo with her whole body. Seiryo flew as if he was a flicked piece of food right across the inside of the store into the automatic packaging system installed on the side wall of the cash register.

DING! In spite of the blow from Seiryo's body being flung into it, the auto packaging machine went to work like normal and packed him up in a few seconds.

“Where should I send him?” Airi asked Amane calmly.

“Freeze him and send him to a satellite orbiting the most distant planet possible in the delivery area.” And with that the packaging machine transported him off.

“Well then, now that that is out of the way, I will go make you a new dish. I'll make it quick,” Airi said wiping the garbage off of Seina with a hand towel before going back into the shop.

“Amane what is the transfer address for our packages? I'm trying to have the items we ordered transferred to the house directly instead of from the ship... there's a lot and it'll be hard for us to carry it all off of the ship into the house and I don't want to waste time because I still have to clean the house,” Kiriko said.

Amane looked back at her unamused. “If you just arrange it with the luggage you bought today, it won't be so hard, as for cleaning up, don't worry about it. The housekeepers should have it cleaned up by now ...”

“Housekeepers!?”

“We don't have an auto keeper?”

“Why? It’s such a common thing!”

“Amane's house is a super huge luxury apartment, it's normal to hire a housekeeper, think about it, there was a dedicated person at the front desk, that's just how wealthy people do things.”

“... ... uhm... ... What is a housekeeper?” Seina asked

“Huh...? ... Oh, it's like... a Maid.”

“A Maid?!”

For men like Seina “maid” was one of those words Seina only knew from less than wholesome sources. So his enthusiasm was justified. Kiriko noticed it and got a cranky look on her face. Amane also noticed it.

“Hey Seina ..... If I wore maid clothes, what kind do you think would look best on me?”

A sample image of maid clothes appeared in front of Seina.

“Hey! Did you forget why we are all living together with Seina? No funny business!” Kiriko said, getting up to shield Seina's eyes from the monitor.

(Maids .....) Seina thought to himself.

“Don't worry Kiriko, the maids come from the same company that all the aristocrats use to clean the houses of the heads of the various countries. It will be fine. They have a very good reputation and are well equipped to deal with emergencies,” Amane said.

“But there's always Seina's probability problem.”

“Well, Mikami-sama was the one who instructed us to use it.”

“Thanks a lot Mikami!” Kiriko said with a bad feeling.

It was only when they finally returned to Amane's house that she knew her feelings were correct.

Chapter Three: Maid in Amane's House

“Welcome back, master” Hakuren (blue), Suiren (green), Karen (red), and Gyokuren (white) said, greeting Seina in maids outfits as he exited the carrier ship

“Welcome back, Master.”
Seina and the others got off of the cruiser and were politely greeted by Hakuren, Gyokuren, Karen, and Suiren who wore simple and classic maid outfits.
“...I knew it.”
Kiriko held her head and sunk to the floor.

“... God damn it!” Kiriko said to herself.

“Come on in you must be tired,” Hakuren said, grabbing Seina by his hand as she led him inside. “Siena, please be quiet about us being sent here from Seto.” Hakuren whispered to Seina, he nodded silently.

“Oh wow our new maids are almost as pretty as you Amane.” Erma said.

But Amane remained unexpectedly calm. “Really? I hadn't even noticed...”

“Oh? You used to be a supermodel, aren't you jealous?”

“That was in the past. I didn't choose that job and I've moved on. Things like that don't matter to me,” Amane said laughing without a care in her voice.

“Oh, I didn't realize that... ... I'm sorry,” Erma said.

“They’re also exactly what I was expecting from someone recommended by Mikami, royals have to uphold a certain atmosphere even with those who work under them, so it's not that surprising. I'm sure they will do a great job of looking after Seina.” Amane said.

Kiriko had other thoughts in her head as she was rapidly approaching Gyokuren.

“I would like to consult with you and the other maids about how you four will be sharing the household chores, so why don't you gather the other “housekeepers” in the kitchen so we can talk in private?” And with that Kiriko and the four Seto scouts went into the kitchen.

Kiriko looked around for a bit to make sure the coast was clear before she blurted out. “Ok, what are you planning? What's the big idea!?”

“Oh my Kiriko, I've never seen you with such a scary face,” Gyokuren said, teasing Kiriko.

Hakuren could feel Kiriko getting upset so she hurried in and broke up the conversation between the two. “Gyokuren, be silent! Hey Kiriko, no uhm... I mean to say Kiriko-sama, I guess you have some idea of what's going on, so I won't patronize you.”

“I was ok with Seto assigning you four to keep an eye on Seina, but I am not ok with it taking this form!”

“We've been sent here because of what happened at the entrance ceremony and because of the kidnapping incident yesterday.”

“Yes, it seems recently something is going on at the academy and we aren't quite sure what it is. Didn't Mikami tell you about it the other day?”

Kiriko remembered the explosion at the entrance ceremony that uncovered a hoard of brain remodeled spies. Kiriko also remembered the trailer type meeting room from the other day that she met Mikami in and realized that the reason for meeting her there was not to keep what they were talking about secret but rather to keep Kiriko safe in case of an emergency.

“Everyone is busy watching over the most important people at the academy, but unfortunately Seina's been deemed a low priority. So this dispatch was a personal request from Lady Seto and Mikami.”

“.....” Kiriko understood the situation.

*** * * Translators’ note: What's going on for those lost is that in the last volume Tarrant Shank sent out a fleet to invade the academy while their defenses were down and Noike and Mikami fought them off. That combined with the spies they smuggled into the admissions ceremony has left the academy on red alert. That was only a day or two ago. * * ***

Seina had a lot of potential, but his ability was a ‘double-edged sword’. Indeed, many of Seina's incidents had produced tremendously good results, but also a lot of disasters had also been caused. It was necessary to prepare for them.

“I'm sorry, I guess I should actually thank you for your help...”

“I can understand your concerns Kiriko, but don't worry, Seina is in good hands with us around to watch over him... I'll make sure there aren't any problems.” Hakuren said confidently while looking at Gyokuren like Kiriko had earlier.

“Why are you looking at me? I'm not planning on doing anything I swear.”

“Yes, but you're just like Widow when it comes to men.” Karen said. The rest of the girls burst out laughing at this unexpected remark.

Gyokuren had such a rare beauty it had caused her many troubles with male relations. She had made many a man go insane from things like sending them a small gaze or any of her other ordinary everyday behaviors. “I'm not going to do anything... why won't you believe me?”

“I don't think it even matters if you try to do something or not! Remember the last time we took a day off and got on that spaceship cruise of newlyweds?”

“Wait... was that the day when Karen (Red) tried to do the hula?”

“Oh yeah, I remember that. It was hilarious watching her try.”

“By the time the trip was over, it nearly turned into a hundred couple group divorce!”

“You're over exaggerating, I only broke up five of them.”

“If I hadn't stopped you, you probably would have broken up the whole ship.”

“I'm sure at least one of them would have been fine, besides Seina isn't that kind of guy.”

“Well, in any case, Gyokuren should not be allowed close to Seina's room except during an emergency!” Kiriko said, and she left the room to go into the living room.

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In the second kitchen of Nashisu, dozens of cooks were busy preparing meals for the evening. Many people were fans of the shop but it was small and only had one location so not everyone who liked its food had a chance to physically eat there. So when Airi took over managing the store

she established a special membership program for people who wanted it delivered to their homes.

The second kitchen was as large as a food factory, and it was filled with people making lunch boxes for delivery that night because a lot of places were still closed due to the computer troubles of the past few days, so they were flooded with nearly three times their usual orders.

SHIN TENCHI MUYO! RYO-OHKI GAIDEN
真・天地無用! 魎皇鬼外伝
天地無用! GXP 4
TENCHI MUYO! GXP 4
"If it was going to become this busy, maybe we should have said that we had computer trouble as well?"
Airi complained as she wore the skin-tight cleansuit. She was checking the special-order lunches that were in layered, lacquered boxes.

Airi was wearing a form fitting suit worn to keep the room in a sterile and dust-free state that was required for manufacturing. She was filling an especially large order and making sure all the items were perfect before she left for the night.

“Damn it! It's like someone intentionally ordered such a troublesome order on purpose ... OK.... OK, OK... alright... then everything is done, now I'll just leave the shipping up to the overnight workers and leave.” Airi said to herself, she waved to the cooks and headed for the transfer gate.

She came out from the transfer gate into her office in nothing but her underwear and proceeded to sit down on the sofa before she began checking her e-mail. As the academy's president, it was usual for her to receive a large number of emails every day. Airi's secretaries were responsible for dividing them according to importance and transferring only the minimum necessary for Airi to check three times a day, but still the number she had to check was never under a hundred.

Airi checked through it again with a special filter, she didn't actually read any of the uncategorized mail but she still verbally replied to it and sent a reply.

“Please continue your hard work.”

“Shut up, do it quickly!”

“Let's do it!”

“I'll kill you!”

And at the end, one mail remained.”..... Raireza? That’s a rare person to hear from, I wonder if it's about Amane-chan.” She was about to open the email when she got a call from Minaho.

“How are you, Mom?”

“Oh Minaho ..... You look well as ever, what are you calling about?”

“I heard that Seina moved into his new place, so I figured we should celebrate.” She said pointing to the transfer gate in Airi's room. A giant case of fresh food items came through it.

“Funaho-sama asked me to send this to you to give to Seina. It's buckwheat noodles and udon.”

“Funaho-sama? Why?”

“Tenchi told her about Seina and she felt her circumstances and his were similar. After all, Seina is the second special case from earth and she is the first. She said she'd give it to him directly, but it seems there are currently restrictions on communicating with him.”

“Yes, that is the case... I'll try to deliver this to Amane's house directly, but for now I'm very busy. I don't know when I will get the time ... How about you?”

“Thanks to Washu, we finished everything extra and we're now expanding the scope of our work ... ...”

“That sounds neat. I guess I can take a bit of time to go deliver this to Seina...”

“Try not to bug Kiriko or Seina too much.” Minaho said quickly ending the call to avoid being counterattacked.

“... ... HEY, I WASN'T THE ONE CALLING UNEXPECTEDLY AT NIGHT!!!”

When the monitor went down Airi noticed the corner of a familiar person’s foot lingering in the hall behind it.” Eavesdropping is a bad hobby Principal Mikami...”

“I knocked, but someone was busy talking to their daughter in nothing but their underwear.”

“... ..... Well, you know what they say, girls will be girls.”

“Funaho-sama and Minaho seem to be pretty concerned about Seina. They even tried calling me about it.” Mikami laughed, grabbing the handle of the box that was transferred in by Minaho.

“I told her to call her mother.”

“I'm surprised our call was so brief after what happened with Kanemitsu.”

“Haha, yeah, it seems everyone is getting married except her, even Misao beat her to the punch. And Mihoshi's already living with Tenchi.”

“I guess I'm the only one still single.” Mikami said with a gloss in her eyes.

“..... I noticed, but you look pretty serious lately about resolving that situation. Did meeting that lady change your mind?”

“!” Mikami was surprised Airi would bring her up. “That lady” of course meant Widow, but historically in a conversation with Airi the topic was taboo. But for Airi it was already becoming a thing of the past.

“Yeah ... it might have ...” Mikami remembered what happened when she met Widow and answered carefully. “Meeting her reminded me of the time I met Seto.”

“Well in any case if you decide to join in the race just remember Minaho isn't doing so well, so you won't be the only horse...” An alert came from Airi's mailbox. “Oops, I nearly forgot.”

Airi opened Raireza's e-mail message and started reading it. Mikami noticed her expression change and knew her work wasn't over for the night.

“..... Hey Mikami, it's still early do you want to go out for dinner?” Airi asked.

Mikami smiled. “Sure.”

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Seina was busy in his room testing out his new furniture. He sat in one of his new chairs and looked at the view from the terrace. It was a great view and reminded him of the one he had seen at Nashisu. (By the way, Airi said that was called “Washu's pore” ... she must have meant Tenchi's Washu.... ...) he thought for a while to himself.

“Er ... ... How do you get that thing started? ... ... Oh, right I haven't set it up yet.” Seina took out his ID card and launched the monitor from there. Thankfully, the knowledge necessary for using the keyboard had been installed as basic knowledge when he first left the earth.

“I'm impressed ... I never thought I'd ever be able to have my own computer let alone one that starts up anywhere. Wait... what's that?” There was a folder that he did not recognize.

“Was this what Kenneth was talking about?” Seina wondered and almost opened the file but got a bad feeling and stopped. He remembered the kinds of things Kenneth was into and didn't want to open it in the unlikely event that Kiriko walked in to find him looking at such things. He had had a similar situation happen in the past.

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He had first seen an erotic book at Kai's house and Tsukiko came in and found him looking at it.

“So ... Seina has become interested such a things as well.”

Seina remembered Tsukiko saying with a sad face. “Kai ... ... Who did you get this from?”

Kai turned pale at the expression Tsukiko made when she said that. Seina ran and could hear terrible sounds coming from Kai's room.

“I'm sorry Tsukiko-san, forgive me ~~~~!”

Then eventually she found Seina. “Hey, Seina-chan ...”

Kai had run off somewhere to hide.

“Hey Seina-chan ... Don't be scared.” Seina was trembling and Tsukiko hugged him.

“If Seina wants to see ...” but he never heard what Tsukiko said though because she had buried his face into her chest and suffocated him. He lost consciousness. Seina recalled the soft feeling on his face and the trauma of suffocating at the same time.

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“... ... Haa! Ha ha ha ha ..... ha ~~~ .....Anyway, Kiriko is similar in character to Tsukiko. I don't want there to be any chance of that happening again...” But he had started the computer to look up Washu anyways.

He opened up a search engine and typed Washu's name in the search box. As soon as he did a billion frames opened through the room.

“Ahhhh!” He quickly tried to close them. Erma came in swimming through the monitors.

“I'm sorry, I was just trying to do some research.”

“Oh, hold on, let me check your settings.” Erma said editing Seina's set up on his monitor and all the windows suddenly organized themselves behind the one monitor.

“Thank you, you saved me.”

“Oh, I see... so you were doing a search on Washu Hakubi.”

“Today, after seeing that scenery ... I am a little interested in the subject ... ...”

“Well living in the academy you're sure to hear all sorts of thing about its most famous citizen, but it really won't do much good to do a search on her. She was here for over 15,000 years anyway.”

“15,000 years?!”

“Well, she only went missing five thousand years ago .... So, there's about 20,000 years of stuff on here total.”

Seina looked amazed at the Erma's sense of time, on Earth that was an archaeological amount of time. “Is she really a human, that person?”

“Oh, even ordinary people can live for about two thousand years now, and with modern technology, you can live almost infinitely if you undergo special treatments like you did Seina. With your Bio-Enhancement, you should be around for much longer than 2,000 years.”

“Two thousand ...” The unrealistic figure stunned Seina. (Two thousand is almost the same amount of time as the Christian calendar. Kiriko said that it wouldn't be possible to live a normal life, it is this kind of thing she meant?)

*** * * Translators’ note: This is in the mid 90's so almost is an accurate statement. * * ***

It was then that Seina finally felt that he was no longer a normal Earthling for the first time.

“Are you freaked out by that?”

“Eh ... yeah ... a little.”

“Well Ms. Kiriko can probably be a better counselor to you on this then I can, since she is also from earth, but I've never really thought much of it since everyone around me has always had a similar life span.”

“Well, I guess that makes sense, but I still think Washu's 20,000-year age isn't normal ...”

“It's only recently that lifespan technology came out in general but she was a philosopher when the academy had its best scientist. And I've heard that that there are even some students of hers that are still around due to the enhancements that were available to them with the private medical technology they had at the time ... ... Hey what's in this weird folder?!”

“Well, that's... uhm!” Seina began to say but Erma opened the folder and just like Seina had imagined it was filled with porn.

“Oh what's this?” Erma caught Seina by the collar as he tried to run away.

“It's just some files that my friends gave me ...”

“I know you just came in to space Seina, there's no way you collected all this yourself.”

“Um ... I don't know how to delete it.”

“Oh, you don't have to worry, Seina, you’re a growing boy, you can't suppress your normal desires,” while saying that Erma was busy changing settings on the files.

“But you're still a minor, and Kiriko will kill me if I don't do something.” A beep sound came from the monitor.

“What were you doing?”

“Just changing some things in your friendship folder.”

“Friendship folder?”

“Male friendship folder.”

“Haa ....., and what are you changing?”

“Well I have an obligation to protect you Seina, I can't allow you to access inappropriate images or personal data. Your friend seems to have a hobby for such things though, so I've put on age restrictions to the things that are a bit too adult for you. And I deleted the illegal pseudo-sex personal data, but don't worry, the rest will be unlocked when you're old enough. Oh, and before I forget.....” Erma launched a program she installed. A stereoscopic image of the building came up.

“Here's the security map of the house, if you ever want to do something but need to make sure no one is around use this.”

“.....” Seina wanted to thank her but he was also very embarrassed.

“Seina, Erma, can you come to the living room for a moment,” Amane's voice came from a monitor that came up.

“OK, we'll be there soon. Alright Seina, let's go ... oh, that's right, if you're interested in Washu Hakubi, I'll give you a link to a good site later. Anyway information on her is so abundant that no matter how much time you have to dedicate to it it'll never be enough.”

They left and went down the stairs to the living room where Hakuren, Kiriko, and Amane were waiting on a sofa.

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They introduced the maids to Seina, he already knew them but went along with it. Gyokuren got out of line and was overly flirty so Karen dragged her off to the kitchen.

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Amane distracted him from the situation by reminding him that it was time to train. Erma opened a small, locked box, which had been put in the corner of the living room and activated a monitor and the keyboard. Inside was metal golf ball sized balls that floated up in the air, they moved to the four corners of the floor and the four corners of the ceiling. And then she scattered some objects on the floor.

“Alright, let's get started.”

“Amane. ... What is this ...?”

“Your training equipment.”

“Training equipment? It looks like building blocks.” Seina picked up one of the parts scattered on the floor. It was hard and metallic and shiny but it was surprisingly light. A translucent picture of a building block castle emerged about 4 meters away from the place where the building blocks were placed.

“All right, assemble the parts over there, according to my instructions.”

“Haha, what?” Seina laughed, he had imagined some kind of hi tech special training regimen.

“Alright, we'll get started I'll set your suit to 50% load first.”

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Karen scolded Gyokuren in the kitchen. “Do you want Kiriko to cave your skull in?”

“I couldn't help it, when I saw that look on Seina's face I just had to.”

Kiriko came in and scolded her too.

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Back in the living room, Seina was straining to assemble the blocks. His whole body hurt. If he put too much force on the blocks they would crumble into a liquid metal and reassemble back at the starting point, if he was too gentle, they wouldn't move.

Amane sat on the sofa watching him. She was quite amused.

“How's he doing?” Kiriko asked, coming back in to the room as she carefully looked into Erma’s monitor so as not to distract her.

“Well, he seems to be doing his best, he'll probably get the hang of it soon.” Erma said.

“I'm not worried about that. I meant have any effects from his probability vector manifested?”

“Well I've only started gathering data on that... but as expected, a bug has already occurred in the building blocks, and the required pressure for self-destruction of the blocks has changed steadily, but it seems that Seina has corrected his grip unconsciously to match it ...”

Seina was about to grab a block that had the error but stopped and went towards another one.

“Is that just by coincidence?”

“Right now, the data is insufficient to conclude anything, but the probability of not taking the block where the pressure error occurred is 100% so far...”

The value of the block Seina picked up began to drop sharply, and the block broke apart.

“This bug is causing a great deal of fluctuation in the difficulty of this. In a way it’s a good thing...”

“I see, well I guess I'll go over to Seina's room to clean it up and get him a change of clothes since he's working so hard.” Kiriko left and rushed up the stairs.

“Oh, Amane, Seina's muscle fatigue readings are rising sharply. He should take a break immediately.”

“Ok...well then, let's take a break. What should we do now...?” Amane said. The blocks turned into a liquid and a table reformed where they had been.

“Oh, thank God.” Seina said collapsing on the floor.

Amane decided to give Seina a sports massage to help him recover, Erma joined in.

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“Seina-chan's already managed to make a mess of this place .....”Kiriko said staring at Seina's room with disgust.

Most of the furniture and daily necessities bought for Seina were still lumped together near the entrance of the room and only the minimum items required were placed within reach around the desk and bed and it was all huddled together.

“It looks like an animal's nest ...” Kiriko looked over the large room again with a wry smile. She unpacked Seina's luggage, made his bed and laid out his pajamas. She looked at her work with a satisfied smile. Oh, she looked like a newlywed wife.

If Amane and Elma were there they would have teased her, but they weren't so she was doing what she wanted. Since early childhood, Kiriko had taken care of most of the housework for her brother and Seina on behalf of her busy mother. Kiriko enjoyed setting up a nice place to relax with Seina, her greatest joy wasn't hanging out with friends or working on hobbies but rather, she had always enjoyed staying at home studying with Seina after school the most.

“Alright. Now it looks more like a room,” she said crying. She noticed herself crying and had a bit of a break down. “Why are you crying ... ... why ... ... why ...?” The scenery in front of her, made her feel uneasy. She began to remember the day she left the earth and went up to space.

Minaho and she watched the Earth getting smaller and smaller and smaller on Mikagami's bridge as they left it behind, Kiriko felt a great sense of liberation. It came from her relief of finally being excused from taking care of Seina's bad luck, just as her mother had pointed out.

“Are you anxious?” Minaho had asked her upon seeing her expression and taken hold of her hand. It was true that she felt uneasy, but it was because she felt it was her job now to protect the Earth... that was the price in her head to escape from Seina... No ..., it was an excuse she had made to justify her actions.

In order to remove her own anxieties, Kiriko pushed herself through Seto's training at an accelerated rate. She volunteered to take more of the curriculum at once in order to get proficient sooner.

To protect Earth and Seina from threats coming from space. Kiriko's sense of anxiety faded around the time she got accustomed to work and got used to being by herself. But at the same time she felt a big hole in her heart open and in order to fill it she bought things and went out to do things with her friends and she even tried dating other men.

But it never filled the hole. No matter how much she did, she was never happy. Every now and then she would come back and check on Seina and the Earth to make sure they were safe, but it was only to justify her leaving. She tried to convince herself that she had made the right choice but her visiting Earth only made her more and more sure she hadn't.

And the day that Seina came to space, it scared Kiriko. Of course, she feared for Seina's safety, but she feared returning to the ways of her old life even more.

“Don't worry about Seina. You should consider your own happiness.” She noticed the true meaning of her mother's words, and cried. “... ... What should I do?” Kiriko muttered while crying, but no one answered. She did not have the courage to actually consult someone about it.

“What should I do……” she cried to herself for a while before slowly coming back to reality. She noticed her face reflected in the window.

“My face looks awful... ... ... Hello, are you there... what should I do?” Kiriko spoke to her right hand as she noticed the duvet covered with tears and make-up in front of her. “I shouldn't!” Kiriko said as she stood up quickly. She pulled out a spare duvet and changed the bed again and then she fixed her makeup.

“... .... Yes, after all, whatever I think, there is only one option.” It's a mother bird's job to teach its children to fly on their own. And so she made up her mind, she had to stay with Seina. She couldn't make the mistake of running away again. “Alright! I have to make everyone dinner soon.”

Kiriko took out a change of clothes for Seina, took a deep breath to relieve her depressed mood. She took the clothes with her and left. “Oh, have they already finished today's curriculum?” Kiriko wondered. When she went downstairs, she noticed no one was in the living room.

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In a bathroom like a greenhouse, many tropical plants were planted, most of the walls and ceilings were made of glass. Despite being in the bathroom, there was no condensation, and the night sky and stars were clearly visible.

“..... Anyway, isn't it strange? Seina's probability bias has been acting up a lot less than we had expected. I wonder why that is.” Erma said as she immersed herself in one of the bathtubs installed in a position slightly higher than the floor. She was checking data on at monitor that floated above the bath as Amane dragged Seina into the bathroom.

“If it's all the same to you, I'd rather give myself a massage,” he said to Amane.

“Don't be ridiculous, you can't give yourself a massage, and besides that it's my duty as your instructor.” Amane said trying to take off the towel Seina had wrapped around him.

“Well, then you can do it while I'm still wearing my clothes can't you?”

“On the Earth do you take a bath while wearing clothes?”

“Well, we take them off, but you can always give me one after the bath, can't you?”

“I already saw you naked when we did your bio-enhancement procedure, you have nothing to be shy about and besides that we live together now.”

“.....” Seina was a bit confused. He noticed that Erma was also nonchalant about him getting stripped. He wondered if casual nudity was normal during bathing in space.

“Well then, first we need to get your body warm and relaxed.” Amane said pulling off Seina's towel and kicking him into the tub, then she took off her own robe and jumped in.

The water was slightly higher than body temperature, Seina hit the floor of the tub but it was soft and elastic like a balloon and he bounced off of it. He panicked and reached out for something to grab. He found something and pulled himself up and gasped for air. Amane laughed, the thing Seina had grabbed was Amane’s naked body. Seina tried to get away but his legs cramped up.

Amane grabbed him and sat him down gently on a table in the middle of the bath. “Here, sit down and relax,” she said, placing him in a chair like step in the tub. “Take a deep breath.” Amane's voice was calm and gentle and he forgot he was even in a tub. He calmed down a bit but then he remembered Amane was naked and tensed up again as he tried to scoot a bit away from her.

“If you're going to tense up there's no reason in us even taking a bath now is there?” Amane said getting in front of Seina.

Seina blocked his view of her breasts with his hands.

“What, are you embarrassed?” Amane said crankily. She grabbed his right leg massaged it roughly.

“……I'm sorry.”

“Who are you apologizing to? Are you apologizing about getting a massage or are you ashamed to take a bath with us?”

“Well ... ... I ...”

“I'm just kidding, I understand why you're embarrassed. You're shy...” with that Amane's massage became gentle. “But I used to work as a model, I am not conscious about being naked or seeing other people naked. I'm conscious of my duty. I used to have to change in front of others all the time.... alright we're done with this side. Now I need you to roll over and lay face down.”

Seina rolled over. As the massage went on Seina's limbs which had felt like lead become surprisingly limber and he fell asleep during the massage from comfort and fatigue.

Erma came towards them. “Oh, Seina fell asleep already..... Wow! If you look closely, his body is covered in scars.”

On his back were countless scars, no large scratches, but many minor cuts and from injuries past.

“I wonder if Kiriko took care of all of these herself.”

“No wonder Kiriko is so nervous about Seina.”

“Anyways ..... Seina's skin is pretty smooth regardless of the scars.

“Why the sudden topic jump, aren't we talking about his scars?”

“I was drinking with Kiriko on the evening of the day before the entrance ceremony ... ... we fell asleep and nearly overslept, so I hopped in the shower pod with Kiriko and noticed her skin was really smooth too”

“Oh, Amane-san ... . Are you?” Erma wondered.

“I do not care about things like that, besides a man's skin is better, but his skin reminded me of Kiriko's.”

Seina woke up and tried to figure out what was going on. “... What are you doing?”

“I'm giving you a massage.” When Amane and Elma responded to Seina's question at the same time, they laughed.

Kiriko came in and looked mad.

“....., what took you so long, Kiriko, you're late ... . Do you wanna help give Seina a massage?”

Kiriko suppressed the urge to explode. Amane sensed danger and immediately backed away from Seina. Kiriko picked up a wooden wash bucket and threw it at Amane, but it bounced off her guardian and hit Seina in the face.

While silent, Amane and Erma watched Kiriko storm out and slam the door closed violently in outrage. After hitting Seina, the bucket fell on the floor, making a thunky sound. Amane and Elma turned to check on Seina.

“Hey Seina, are you ok?” Amane said as she hugged Seina, he was dazed and confused.

“He looks ok.”

“That's odd, his guardian should have activated.”

“So, Erma, are you going to go outside and talk to Kiriko or should I?” Amane looked awkwardly at Erma.

“That’s kind of like asking me if I want to go into a forest full of deadly beasts.”

Amane wondered what to do about the situation when she heard the doorbell ring.

“We have a visitor? ... ... Well, hopefully it's a god of salvation and not a devil that brings forth a new disaster.”

Seina began to regain consciousness and they both lifted him up and brought him with them.

* * * **End of episode 7** * * *

* * * **Translators note: When Erma was talking about illegal bio data on NB, she meant data for the NB to shape shift ... basically sex doll data. * * ***

Kiriko was experiencing some internal turmoil in the other room over what she had just done, she hadn't meant to hit Seina or to get violent over nothing. She heard the doorbell ring though and went to check on it but Hakuren and Suiren had already let the guests in.

“A, Airi-san! And Mikami?”

“Ah, Kiriko-chan, how would you like for us to make dinner for you?” Airi said, but she didn't wait for a response and headed straight for the kitchen.

When Kiriko came in Hakuren and Suiren were laying out dishes Airi had already cooked at Nashishu and Airi was already eating soba. Seina, Amane, and Erma had joined in.

“Why are you here Airi?” Kiriko asked.

“I brought soba noodles and udon to celebrate Seina's housewarming. Well actually Funaho sent them through Minaho, but I cooked them.” Airi said, having a drink that Hakuren brought her.

“Well, thank you for that... why is Mikami-sama here as well?”

“Ho ho ho, because they sent me alcohol to bring.”

Kiriko was in a drinking mood and didn't question the matter further. They ate and drank. Airi told Seina that she had actually gotten his family to come for the admissions ceremony, but they were stuck in the outer ring due to the security systems failure. As they ate and drank, Airi got drunk and started hanging onto Seina.

She asked if she could go into Seina's room and lay down. Mikami also asked to go with her so she could check on Seina's NB.

“NB?”

“Seina, you couldn't get it to start correctly, right? I'll configure it for you but until I do I need you to keep everyone out of your room just to be safe.” And with that she dragged Airi with her to Seina's room.

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Mikami closed the door and locked it.

“Well that went smoothly.” Airi said looking around the room.

“Kiriko-san has sure tidied this place up... ...”

“Weeee ~~~” Airi divided into Seina's bed like it was a pool. “Where did you put your NB Seina?” Airi asked.

“Oh, it's over there,” he said, pointing to it.

Mikami headed towards it. She took NB out of its storage box and launched a keyboard. After that a few command monitors came up all around NB. “There's no helping it, I need Airi for this, Seina, could you please help Airi sit up.”

Seina got in bed behind Airi and propped her up from behind.

“Oh yeah ~ ~, Seina you are so bold ... uhuhu.” Airi drunkenly said leaning against Seina. He had his arms wrapped around her stomach and she slumped so that his hands rose up her abdomen to her chest.

“Airi-san please don't lean so much.”

“I will if you kiss me~ ~” Airi said closing her eyes and protruding her lips towards Seina.

“Principal Mikami, do something!”

“I know it's troublesome but just bear with the situation for now. Ho ho ho.”

“That easier said than done.” Hesitantly, Seina lightly kissed Airi's forehead.

“Hmm?” Airi opened her eyes dissatisfied. But she snapped back to sobriety a bit and stood up and put out both hands to be read by the monitor. When Airi put both hands on the activated monitor plate, the body scan started. Airi sang a song.

“Shutoji Shingoji, the garden of the shrine is one of the moonlit night, come and see ~ come and come,” Airi suddenly began singing “Shashiro no Tadashi Bashiko”.

“What ... what are you doing?”

“Quiet, it's a voice certificate that encrypts it.” Mikami told Seina in a low voice.

Ping! When Airi's song was over, NB's protection was disabled.

“I leave it to you,” Airi said, closing her eyes and passing out against Seina.

“Ho ho ho, this is easy work, please be patient a little more.”

“Wow ...” Seina said, as he watched Mikami work.

“Don't think I'm not capable at things just because I'm old enough to be a grandmother. I used to rival Seto herself back in the day.”

“Huh!?”

“It's a long story.”

Seina gazed at Mikami with astonishment in his eyes ....., Mikami's finger movements were so fast.

“Oh what's this?” Mikami came across Kenneth’s “friendship folder” which had been renamed ‘Erma’. “This folder seems to be interfering with my installation.”

“……Please don't open that.”

“What? Why? What's in there?” Airi asked. She got up on her own and went towards Mikami.

Seina panicked and tried to catch Airi from behind but fumbled and fell on the bed.

“..... oh hehehe ..... I see.” She said looking at the monitor... “Your friends have terrible tastes, none of these women have any of the experience and beauty that comes with age.”

“Don't worry, I'll back it up and finish my work. Seina you won’t need us for the initial registration procedure. It’s simple, just put in your id card ... ...” and with that she grabbed Airi by the collar and dragged her out of the room.

Seina was relieved to finally have peace and quiet in his room. “I am tired ..... I'll configure NB tomorrow... I just want to go to bed now.” Seina changed into the pajamas that Kiriko laid out for him and put the NB on his desk and stared at it.

“..... I wonder why they chose today to mess with this?” he wondered. He put his ID card into the slot on the NB, its eyes gleamed and it scanned him.

“User, Seina Yamada... ... I have confirmed you as master.”

“Why does it sound like Airi?” The NB spoke in Airi's voice.

“Airi? Master, does that mean you wish to name me Airi?”

“Oh no, no ... ... your voice is just the same as a person I know ... ... you know what I mean?”

“Yes, but not completely. With future data accumulation I will be able to understand the subtle nuances of you, master. The voice currently in use is based on the basic setting, but it is possible to change it according to the taste of the master. Would you like me to change it now?”

“... No, I am tired today, I will do it tomorrow.”

“OK, so how about setting up the schedule management systems master? Your public schedule has already been installed. If you let me know something you wish to do, I can add it to schedule, think of me as your secretary. I can also set a wake-up time for you and pick out clothes and prepare breakfast.

“..... “

A monitor with a rough schedule appeared in front of Seina. The GP academy curriculum was described in detail there. From there, what seemed to be today's schedule table emerged, and the table divided into seconds which became dark as time passed.

“I have no plans for tonight, and the only thing I have set up for tomorrow is home training.”

“Understood. I will switch to sleep mode, goodnight master .....”

“Good night.” Seina confirmed and the light disappeared from NB and Seina got in bed and went to sleep. As he slept NB changed shape. Its voice changed to sound like one that you would find on the news.

“Good morning everyone!” Is everyone at the academy having a wonderful morning today?” and then it turned back into a sphere and stopped moving or making sound.

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“Oh master, did I wake you?” Airi drunkenly talked to herself in the mirror as she tried on a maid outfit.

“I wonder what would happen if I woke Seina up like this tomorrow.”

“Ho ho, Seina's heart may stop,” Mikami said.

“It's more likely that Kiriko would stop your heart first if you tried.” Karen said.

Mikami, Karen, Gyokuren, and Suiren were watching Airi make an idiot of herself as she tried on the maid outfit.

“Why? It looks nice, I'm going to do it.”

“Is she serious? ..... I can't tell... if she's serious we should stop her,” Hakuren said.

Gyokuren and Karen agreed and so they began dragging Airi to the elevator.

“I am not scared of Kiriko-chan!” she said as they dropped her off in the elevator. She saw her reflection on the walls and started posing as the door shut on her.

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“Mikami, thank you for today.” Amane said bowing as Kiriko and Erma walked her towards the entrance.

“I had a lot of fun, Airi might have had a bit too much fun, but don't worry, I'll make sure she gets into work tomorrow no matter how hard that is.” She got on the elevator. “When am I going to get a break?” She sighed as the elevator closed and soon she arrived at the first floor where the staff greeted her and whispered something to her.

“Mikami, I was waiting for you!” a drunk Airi said and they went past the staff and onto another elevator that was just a round plate.

However, they found themselves in room with a domed roof in which soft lighting poured in. At first glance it looked like a garden with trees, but the things growing there weren't plants, but groups of various minerals. Seto and Washu were waiting, surrounded by a huge quartz pillar atop a small staircase lined with a velvet carpet.

“I am sorry to keep you busy, please sit down” Seto said.

Mikami sat where Seto pointed.

”How long did it take you to make something like this?” she asked Washu.

“Originally, this was one of my laboratory facilities. It seemed to be convenient to hold a meeting here. It didn't take much time to tidy the place up. I'm just lucky the developer of this place kept my lab intact, ha ha ha.”

“Was he one of your students?”

“He was just a cowardly guy from a long time ago.”

* * * **Translators’ note: This implies it's Dr. Clay. * * ***

Mikami had actually acquired the island before Amane bought it and all the staff was actually put there by Seto, Mikami, and Airi.

“Here you go,” Airi said as she brought everyone tea.

“Oh Airi, what took you so long?”

Airi was still wearing the maid's clothes from earlier but she had sobered up. In the private room of the servants of Amane's House, there was secretly a transfer gate to this and other places. “I got distracted planning something, ahahaha.”

“Hoho, I hope you take Hakuren's advice frankly, but I wish you well.”

“Give out tea and start explaining.”

When Airi finished delivering tea and cake to each of them the meeting began.

“We finished gathering the report on the brain remodeled spies, we found none in Jurai or in the Kuramitsu's employ, but we found more than expected in the academy. The technology is in fact the same as that used with Mihoshi but...” Airi said.

Washu interrupted “But it obviously was derived from a different point in development. Thankfully because of that it is easy to find the spies.”

Airi took over the conversation again, “Yes, and there are no other cases of brain remodeling similar to Mihoshi's so we know the technology comes from there for sure. In recent years, the number of spies naturally increased with the increased number of new recruits. We aren't sure what their plan is, but oddly it seems the newer spies are organized differently from the old ones. The old ones were all clustered in the same departments and the new ones are all in random places.” Airi finished her report and took a seat.

Washu began speaking, “It's just my personal opinion, but ... I think it seems like the spy plan seems to have been taken over by a different leader from when it started and that's why it's like that. Whoever took it over doesn't know what they're doing and has no interest in actually taking over the academy they must just want information. They’re too scattered to be effective in a hostile takeover. The first wave was clearly meant to gather specific Intel but the second type is all randomly placed.”

Seto spoke, “As Washu said, there is no doubt that there has been a change in the intent of the enemy's strategy. Anyways, sweeping out the infiltrators is our first priority now. Hopefully, we can get some data from them in the process and figure out what happened. Hey Washu, do you think it would be possible for you to poke around in their astral memory and figure out what happened to them when their brains were remodeled?”

Theoretically if you could read someone's astral memory you could see everything that ever happened to them. But without the exact data required you wouldn't be able to retrieve it.

“No, that is not going to happen... ... You would have to do an astral copy of all of them if you want that done...” Washu said.

Seto responded, “You know how much power you need to do that. In order to check that large number of people, you'd need a Ryo-Ohki type or second-generation class Imperial Tree, and there's no way I can do that from behind the scenes.”

Washu spoke, “Seto, it's dangerous to mess around too much with the astral sea. And I will not interfere in this world as a Choushin goddess, even if the result is getting something like Tenchi. Neither will Tsunami or Tokimi. Unlike you, Seto, I don't believe in cheating on tests.”

“Alright, I get it, Washu-chan you don't have to be so mean about it.” Seto responded.

Airi chimed in, “Oh, that reminds me, I found out where that missing AI went. I got an email from Raireza. Mikami and I went to visit her in virtual space.”

*** * *Flashback* * ***

In the living room of Kirche in the virtual space, Airi and Kirche were sitting on the sofa face to face with each other.

“I love him!” Kirche teared up. “Oh, when I say such pretty things, my emotions escape me.”

“Kirche, why won't you return home? Do you dislike your father?” Airi asked.

Her father tried to forge a fake body and fake birth certificate for her so he could get married to her, it was illegal to marry an AI you created if it had an astral unless you were separated for 100 years before the marriage. So, she ran away.

Airi pointed out that what Kirche was doing by setting up a home with Seina's astral data was basically exactly what her father wanted to do with her. She was conflicted over this and cried.

“Hey Kirche, you aren't just a program, you are different. So why not try to make a life with the real Seina instead of just a non-sentient copy of him. Think of it this way, as long as he is asleep he is all yours to take care of. I'd like to ask you to be Seina's security escort, watch over him and report back to me, think it over for a while.”

Kirche gave a small nod...

*** * * And with that Airi finished her flashback. * * ***

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“Well I have things to do, I have to go.” Airi said. She left the meeting.

“By the way, Mikami. When will Widow's astral be delivered?” Washu asked.

“Well ... it is going to be impossible until the end of her trial. But the sentence is guaranteed just on her report alone. So probably 24 hours after that. Even now though, I'm trying to keep her as

isolated from others as possible. She has as little contact with other people as possible. The trial itself will be done under quarantine. Do you think it's really OK to use Widow's astral as the core....?”

“It would be a waste to scatter her astral back into the astral sea.”

“So, this means that you're actually planning another ship like you made 700 years ago?”

“Yes, but only because I feel there is a great enough reason for me to do it. History is moving in a good direction and Seina is key to that. How do you two feel about that?” Washu aimed a challenging smile at Seto.

In response, Seto looked to the Seniwan representative, Mikami, to get consent.

“Please create the best ship possible, Washu-chan” Mikami said smiling.

*** * * Translators’ note: This dialogue snippet places OVA 4's place in the time line. * * ***

Amane was drinking wine in the garden of her home. Erma joined her. She pointed out that the maids were clearly planted there by Seto. They both decided to confront Hakuren about it. They got to drinking with Hakuren and Suiren. She tried to change the subject and asked Amane if she had known Seina a long time. Amane told her how they met and why she gave him the pamphlet.

“The pamphlet should have rejected to sign Seina up anyways because it had security measures in place to prevent normal people from joining. But Seina's probability vector probably messed with it.”

“Do you regret giving Seina the chance to come to space?”

“There's no point in regretting what has already happened, but ... I think that maybe my decision was a little insensitive towards Kiriko.” They went to bed after their talk.

Chapter Four: Fleeting Peace

*** * * Translators' note: This is the 12th day since Seina left for space and the start of episode 8. * * ***

The next day Kiriko was busy preparing breakfast when a timer went off. It was time for her to wake up Seina. She had Karen take over the cooking. She knocked on the door but there was no reaction from inside.

Seina never locked his room in case there was ever an emergency. Since there was no reaction, she should have entered the room immediately and woken him, but Kiriko was hesitant to enter Seina's room. She was conscious that he had grown up and should be waking himself up.

She thought up an excuse to enter and entered anyways. "Good Morning, Seina-chan." Kiriko gently said with hesitation.

"No ... stop another five minutes, please only five minutes ... ... Mom ....."

"... ... Mom? Are you still a child?" Kiriko was relieved by Seina's innocent sleeping face.

"Seina, its morning, get up!" She pulled off his covers and was surprised to see his morning wood.

"!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

"... ..... Oh, it's you... good morning Kiriko-san .....!" He said, waking up he noticed Kiriko gazing at his clothes. He hurried to conceal his morning boner.

"Oh wow."

"....."

Airi and Gyokuren came into the room and looked at Seina. "So Seina, which one of your maids do you want to help you?"

Kiriko slapped both of them and Seina at once and then dragged the two women out of the room into the kitchen downstairs.

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"Why are you here? You have no reason to be here!" Kiriko said coldly.

"Well, I wanted to wake up Seina and have breakfast with him.... ..."

Karen led them to the kitchen and noticed Seina walking out of his room, she intercepted him. "Good morning, Seina, breakfast is already ready, please sit down in your favorite place and I'll bring it to you."

"Oh... okay." Karen encouraged Seina to sit at the table farthest away from the kitchen. She went into the kitchen and got rice and miso soup and put it in front of him. Something about the

situation made Seina see a bit of Kiriko in Karen. They were both serious types. As Seina thought about it, the images of Karen and Kiriko overlapped.

“Here you go.” He suddenly met eyes with Karen, Seina turned bright red.

“Oh, thank you.” Seina hurriedly deflected his eyes. He noticed Karen also blushed.

“Please eat slowly, if you need anything else, please don't hesitate to call me.” Karen put some distance between herself and Seina. Kiriko came out of the kitchen and Karen set up breakfast for her on the side opposite of Seina so they could talk.

Karen bowed and headed to the kitchen. Karen exhaled when she went into the kitchen. She was finally liberated from that awkward situation. Airi was busy scooping out a bowl of rice and was full of energy.

Gyokuren was sitting down icing her face, which had yet to recover from Kiriko's slap. Kiriko and Seina sat on the side opposite of each other eating rice in awkward silence.

“That smells delicious,” Erma said coming in.

“Erma!”

“Good morning, Seina, morning Kiriko-san.”

Erma ate some of Seina's food.

“Erma that isn't for you.” Kiriko said.

“You know what.... I'll let you two eat by yourself for a while so you two can make up. I can't believe you haven't done it already.”

“We aren't fighting” Kiriko said.

“Here Seina-chan,” Erma said holding out a bite of food in front of Seina. Say ah-” Seina reflexively ate it like he was a baby bird and Erma was his mother.

“I thought you two would be playing newlyweds like this by now,” Erma said.

“Quit joking around and eat...!” Kiriko said, looking away. However, she looked in the direction of where Amane was coming from and was surprised by what she saw. Amane in her undergarments.

“Amane, what do you think you're doing running around like that!” Kiriko yelled.

Ignoring Kiriko's shouting, Amane moved to the chair next to Seina, and hugged his arm. “How's your condition? Are your muscles in any pain?”

Seina desperately diverted his face.

“... What is that?” Amane said, noticing Kiriko’s slap mark. Kiriko turned red.

“I'm sorry about the other day Seina, I hope you’re not mad...” Amane forcibly turned her face towards Seina's, and did exactly the same thing that Erma did earlier with the food.

“Say aaaaaah.”

“Amane cover up!” Kiriko said pulling Amane away and handing her an apron to wear.

“Somehow that's even worse.”

“AMANE!!!!!” But Kiriko's anger surpassed Amane's sex appeal.

“What's going on in here?”

“A, Airi?” Amane said.

Airi looked at the situation. “Didn't anyone ever teach you not to talk while eating? And also, AMANE what are you doing!”

“Uhm...”

“A naked apron is a sacred dress that should be shown only to truly important people. Besides that, it is a special item that activates its maximum effect in a closed space with only two people making love..... You are a fool to try to use it out in the open like this!” Airi said way too seriously, but after all she was a philosopher.

* * * **Translators’ note: This is a sly reference to spaceship Aggaruter. * * ***

“I can't tell if she is being serious...”

“Seina!” Airi said.

“Yes?!”

“Can you come to my house with me? I will show you the proper essence of the naked apron,” Airi said, she was serious after all.

Ker slap! A furious Kiriko whacked her again.

“You need to hurry up and leave. If you don't go now, you’re going to be late for work.” Kiriko said, dragging Airi off.

“Ow, my face...” Airi said as she was dragged off

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Approximately fifteen minutes later, they were all at the shuttle port on the roof to see Airi off.

“I also want to train Seina, so I can give him a massage...” Airi said.

“Too bad! Mikami-sama, told me you're going to be busy today.” Kiriko roared, violently throwing Airi into the cruiser.

“Oh yeah, Seina is all mine, that reminds me we’ve got to get to work soon.” Kiriko who heard Amane’s happy words and ran to Karen and clasped her hands tightly.

“Please Karen, you're the only one here who is reliable. Keep watch over Amane, please ask Hakuren to help.” Kiriko whispered to her. Karen nodded silently.

Kiriko then grasped Gyokuren’s hands this time expressionlessly. “Please, Gyokuren, you do not have to do anything, do not move any closer to Seina, otherwise I might have to put extra power into my hands the next time they are on you.” She said to her to intimidate her.

“Yes, I understand.”

“Well then, get to work,” the cruiser slowly started moving away from the dock with its door open.

“You bastards! I will train with you Seina!” Airi said crying out the door of the cruiser.

“Airi, don't be so childish!”

“Airi, before you go do I need to know anything about Seina's NB?” Kiriko asked.

Airi stopped crying. “... .... Kiriko chan, come with me and I'll fill you in.” Airi made the cruiser come back for Kiriko and Erma.

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“Seina, meet me in the living room in 5 minutes.” Amane called to him. Seina went into his room and changed outfits.

“Master,” NB who sensed Seina's presence activated without warning.

“Wow! ....., Airi's voice nearly gave me a heart attack.”

“Master's pulse seems normal, no defects were found in the heart.”

“I didn't mean literally... ....”

“Oh, you meant you were surprised. I see...”

“Oh wow, it understands something as subtle as that ... that's amazing ... I really should change its voice though ... oh ... right, I'm supposed to go downstairs. Amane will scold me if I'm late.”

“The one called Amane is my master's instructor, please take me with you if you are going to see her. I am supposed to be with you to help you maintain your schedule.”

“OK.” As soon as Seina could quickly change clothes, NB suddenly rose.

“I do not need you to carry me.”

“Oh wow, it's floating!”

“I can fly at over Mach speed; I can even move in space.”

“Move in space?”

“I have no super space navigation functions though, so it would take some time but it is possible to use me for interplanetary navigation.”

“That's ... ... amazing.”

“Let's hurry, we shouldn't make your instructor wait.”

“Right,” Seina followed NB out of the room and went down the stairs. Amane, who was reading a book on the sofa in the living room, noticed that Seina had come down, and looked up.

“Is that the NB Airi-san was talking about the other day?”

“I would like double check the master's schedule with his instructor, is that ok?”

“Wow! What is that, Airi's voice?” Amane stared at NB.

“Yesterday, when I started it, this was its voice.”

“Ha ... ... Airi is such a kook.”

“Ms. Instructor....” NB said, reminding Amane of its question.

“Well ... ... When the curriculum of Seina is announced at the GP Academy, I will update you, but for now his studies are on hold as we get data on his abilities for a while.”

“Roger that!”

“Well then Seina, we will be doing blocks again like yesterday, so get ready. By the way, what did you name it?”

“I haven't thought about it yet.”

“Wait, then why do you need NB if you haven't even decided a name for it?” Amane looked at NB with interest, she sat on the sofa with NB and started something like a monitor, and started tinkering with NB.

“What are you doing Amane...?”

“Its voice is annoying. I know of one much better, I will customize it for you don't worry.”

“May I accept customization from the instructor master?”

“Oh ... yeah, I don't mind that.”

“OK,” that said, NB accepted access from Amane.

A lot of monitors started up and Amane began to hit the keyboard. “I'll also put in various kinds of interesting software, you won’t regret it.”

“Please, please ... Amane, wait a moment!” Seina remembered the “friendship folder” that was in the NB and panicked. He attempted to get back NB. However, Seina had forgotten that the load on his body was dropped for training and he jumped over Amane and hit the wall.

“What are you doing ...? ... Ha, well, I guess there is something you don't want me to see in it.”

Seina remembered that ‘Friendship Folder’ had already been seen by a number of people. Amane began to gently investigate the contents of NB's memories. (I need to just delete that folder already).

“..... Oh that's odd... There nothing in this folder... I was expecting to find a friendship folder on here. After all you have made some friends... right?”

(A ‘Friendship Folder’ must be a thing here. But what does that term even mean ..... it's a good thing it deleted itself.)

“In that case, I'll put in one of my friend’s friendship folders that I got back when I was a model...”

“No, I don't need it!” refused Seina. (If Kiriko knew that I received something like that from Amane ... ... it's likely to rain with blood up in here.)

“Well, it's fun to get them secretly and watch them.”

“I guess...?” Seina said. While rubbing his bumped head, he headed to the building block and tried to begin training when...

“..... Get off my lawn” NB's voice changed to that of an old man.

“What the heck!?”

“I like a warm glass of milk before bed.”

“Amane! What did you do to NB?”

“Oh this? It's just some AI Character Software.”

“Please do not put such a strange thing into my NB.”

“Ah ha ha, it not strange, it's hilarious. Besides we need more men in the house.” She was done changing its settings and quickly lost interest and went back to her magazine.

* * * **Translators’ note: In Japanese she installed a Kansai dialect onto it ... I am not bothering to try translating that shit into an American dialect. You’re getting old man NB. * * ***

Kiriko and Erma, who were watching what was going on in the living room from the cabin of the cruiser, were rolling around laughing in spite of being in front of Airi.

“I wonder who deleted Seina's Friendship Folder, was it you Kiriko-chan?”

“I don't mess with other people's belongings!” Kiriko stopped smiling and glanced at Airi.

“I just figured it would be you since Seina is still a minor, it is too early for him to see such things!”

“Seina will not be a child forever, I know that I can’t keep treating him like one. There are few people who dislike Seina's bad luck here, I hope he will pursue real women instead.”

“Like Miki Steinbeck or something?”

“I hate that girl, she used Seina for her father! I cannot trust Seina with that child!”

“..... She looks a lot like you, that girl.”

“We are not alike!”

“Well then, what if I told you she looks like Tsukiko-chan?”

“Why are you bringing up my mother .....!” in Kiriko's mind, an image of Tsukiko and Miki overlapped. Kiriko and Tsukiko were said to be very similar. The same went for Kiriko and Miki. “No matter what you say that girl is not fit for Seina!”

“Perhaps you have an incestuous hatred?”

“No!” Kiriko glanced at Erma, Erma hid behind Airi like a cat surprised by a loud noise.

“The problem is not Miki-san, but Amane and Gyokuren!”

“In any case, unlike Gyokuren, I do not think that Amane is a big problem.”

“Either way I'm not happy with the situation. We’re going to have to live with Seina for about two more weeks and during that time we have no way of keeping track of him throughout the day to make sure she isn't up to anything.”

“Actually, I hate to say this, but please look through this.” Airi said. A monitor showed up in front of Erma and Kiriko's eyes.

The report explained that there were many more spies than they initially thought, and they were still weeding them out and the ratio of freshmen that were actually spies was still being determined.

“So Airi, what you’re saying is that it will be awhile before Seina will return to the dormitory.”

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“I see ... so that's why contact with the academy had been interrupted.” Kyo Komachi, a giant woman said, standing across from Ryoko Balta in a dark space. She was one of the top executives of the Da Ruma guild.

What was displayed before Komachi was the same report Airi showed to Kiriko.

“There is nothing in this report pointing to the Da Ruma Guild which is good because this is clearly Tarrant's organization's doing. There is no doubt about his involvement when I look at the data.”

To Komachi’s cool tone, Ryoko gazed away as if frustrated. “Is that so?”

“So what are you going to do with this information? If there is no objection to me doing so Ryoko, I have to report this back to the Da Ruma...”

“I don't like the way Tarrant does things .... And I don't want to admit it, but this is no longer my fight.” Ryoko said.

“He is a direct successor to the Shank Guild that was originally destroyed by Jurai. Although it was a medium-sized organization, it had a long history, so this is a complicated matter ... ... Even I am not sure what to do, his military force is necessary for the current Guild.”

“Why do you need such an evil person as an ally?”

“As long as his enemies are the same as ours we both benefit.”

“.....” This conversation had been repeated many times in the past.

“But indeed his way of doing more than necessary makes us feel he has a sense of hostility towards the Guild and there are many executives who are concerned about it ... he needs to be put on a leash... ..... So this information is good for me. “

“I agree!”

“Please continue collecting information.” Ryoko’s stereoscopic picture disappeared and only Komachi was left in a pitch - dark space.

“... So, what’s your impression?” Komachi said to an empty space. A moment later Kamiki Seto Jurai appeared, who should have been both their enemies.

“You passed.”

“Depending on your approach to this, I have an idea for this situation you might enjoy.”

“I'm satisfied with her information, I think this situation will work out for our mutual benefit.”

“Mutual benefit? ..... No way, how?”

“It's still too early for me to conclude that. For now, that is enough to just get Tarrant on a leash. Now then, the list of arrested inmates you requested, all of them are to be transferred here right?”

Many of the Space pirates who were caught up in the bad luck of Seina had been requested to be handed over from another country for various reasons. Most of them were going to be executed immediately, if for nothing more than keeping their mouths shut. By detaining them in Jurai their deaths could be postponed.

“Yes, I’d appreciate it if you do so.” It's better to be a hostage than being executed.

“I'll see you around.”

Chapter Five: Pleasure

Kiriko went for a walk after teaching classes and noticed that people were watching her. She knew she had a fan club, but she found it unnerving. She went into a room and met with Ringo.

“Long time no see, Kiriko-sama” Ringo bowed elegantly.

“... ..... Ringo?” For a moment, Kiriko was unable to recognize where she was, she looked around. Kiriko reaffirmed that she was in her homeroom office.

“Ms. Ringo, this is unexpected... how do you do?”

“There was something I wanted to talk to Seina about, but at the moment ... Seina-san's residence is a top secret, Seto-sama told me to search by myself ... So, I came here.”

“Oh! I am sorry I, didn't know, please sit down.” Kiriko, who realized that Ringo was still standing, pointed to the nearby sofa in a hurry.

“Thank you,” she gracefully sat on the sofa.

Ringo at work was a very professional woman, but when it came to her private time, her atmosphere changed. No, private life Ringo was the original personality, and her work persona was due to working in a place like Seto’s accounting department. It was a mentally stressing environment that put its employees in a position such as a cartoonist, novelist, or animator is in just before the deadline. Ringo gave Kiriko an MMD card.

“This is!?”

“The bounty pay and the breakdown of the property left by Widow. We've added a little extra for Seina doing such a great job.”

“You added extra... ....” Kiriko was shocked at the figure displayed on the plate. It was a price that was incomparable even to the reward from the mass space pirate arrest.”

“Ringo-sama ..... giving Seina this much money is irresponsible ... ...”

It was possible to buy and maintain an entire resort planet in the most expensive and populated solar system in the Galactic Federation. If it was in the frontier, it would also possible to possess an area the size of a solar system. Actually, if Jurai acknowledged it, Seina could even buy the entire Sol solar system including Earth with this amount.

“But that was her wish .... Widow's wish, and besides, it's up to you to manage. You should deal with it responsibly. How about I come home with you and we talk more about it there.” Ringo said in a flat tone.

Kiriko thought over the “ramifications” of bringing Ringo to see Seina for a bit. She decided against it but couldn't tell her that.

“Okay, there are some jobs that I have to finish first, please wait a little. I'll make a cup of tea for you right now.”

“Thank you.”

Kiriko headed to the kitchen set in the corner of the room. (I must do this to Ms. Ringo for Seina-chan) she told herself. She poured the tea and put in some of the leftover sake that Airi had given Amane to give her the other day. It was filled with sleep inducing nano-machines.

“Here you go.”

“Oh my, it smells good... Oh ... is that sake?”

“Yeah, I added some sake to it, to make it fragrant.”

“Thank you.”

Kiriko headed for her seat and resisted the urge to knock the cup out of Ringo's hand.

Donk!

After ten or so seconds, the cup fell from Ringo's hand. Kiriko approached Ringo and supported her limp body. Kiriko’s room had a small research station, and a medium - sized transfer terminal was installed. (I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry) Kiriko endured her crying, and laid Ringo in a case for valuable items that could be put in cryo-stasis for hours, and wrapped it up quickly.

“I will send this to Seto ... ... OK, transfer.”

When the case with Ringo was successfully transferred, a receipt transferred back, Kiriko quickly went to the entrance of her room. The home room office was as wide as an ordinary classroom, but to Kiriko it felt like it was getting cramped and running out of oxygen. Kiriko went out into corridor and took a deep breath.

“Ms. Masaki.”

“Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!”

Kiriko jumped 5 meters away before looking towards the source of the voice. Miki Steinbeck was standing there quietly smiling at her.

“Miki ..... Steinbeck?”

Kiriko was familiar with Miki’s smile. (Did she see!?) Kiriko felt like she had. Miki's expression was similar to the expression Tsukiko made when she saw something to gossip about Kiriko doing. Kiriko remembered that Miki's father's lab had been nearby, so she figured she was just in the area because of it.

“Hey Miki, is it ok if we go somewhere else to talk?”

“Yes, I’d prefer that. This place is a bit too public anyways.

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Amane, Karen, and NB watched Seina do his building blocks training for the day. Afterwards Amane went with Karen to give Seina a massage. Karen didn't want to get naked while taking a bath. Amane called in Gyokuren to help her strip Karen, then they threw her in the tub with Seina. She panicked and grabbed onto him.

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“If you have something to say, please say it as soon as possible.” Kiriko told Miki. They had relocated to an unpopulated forest area. “Did you come to check on the state of your father, I never thought I'd see such a thing happen to someone's lab.”

“Ah, about that.”

“What is that? ... ... What do you want to say?” asked Kiriko.

“I hear that kind of thing happens around Seina quite often.”

“Oh... yes... it does.”

“Well, then, I'm not really sure there's anything else for me to say.”

They stood in silence. Kiriko noticed what Airi had said about Miki resembling Tsukiko.

“Wow! Amane Kaunaq and Seina live together?” The silence between Kiriko and Miki was broken by the conversation of some students near the edge of the forest.

Interested, Kiriko and Miki snuck up quietly to eavesdrop. Kenneth and Rajau were talking to Miki's roommates.

“But if that is the case, why aren't you two living with him?”

“Well, Seina has special needs when it comes to training. I wonder why Professor Amane was put in charge of things....” and with that Miki felt a strange vibration emanating from Kiriko, who was next to her. Kiriko had launched a monitor and was watching something. Something going on at Seina's house.

The figure of Karen hugging Seina in the bathtub was reflected. Kiriko clenched her teeth and started trembling before dashing off like a cheetah about to tear its prey to shreds.

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Amane's house performed maintenance on itself automatically, so there was really no need for maids to clean. Gyokuren had finished doing Amane's laundry and found herself watching the situation going on in the bathroom on a monitor. She was told not to get close to Seina, so after having undressed Karen she got back to work as quickly as possible.

“It sounds like Karen is having fun. Oh, what's this, a guest?”

Seiryo Tennan rang the doorbell. He let himself in and walked passed Gyokuren. Gyokuren got in front of him to stop him. Seiryo had a biased luck probability in the opposite direction of Seina's. Although it was not as high as Seina's, it was recognizable as an obvious plus in his life. But Seiryo had the instincts of a stupid fool and that often invalidated any luck he had.

“Hi there..... Where do you think you’re going?” Gyokuren asked, starring Seiryo down.

Seiryo broke out into a cold sweat and froze looking at Gyokuren. “Ah ... . Well, I heard Seina's training is going well. I've been worrying about him for a while and I've come to see him. Ha ha ha ha,” Seiryo said, paralyzed. He looked away from Gyokuren and was released from her intimidating gaze. He walked backwards and out of the house before reversing and coming back to Gyokuren.

“By the way, where is Seina?” Seiryo asked trying not to look at Gyokuren's face.

“He is taking a bath with Amane now.”

“What ... WHAT!?”

“... ... And they've been in there quite a while.”

“In the bathroom!?” Seiryo, was afraid of Gyokuren and could not get into the bathroom directly, so he was struggling to make up an excuse to somehow get passed her. Gyokuren was enjoying messing with him, but she also wanted an excuse to go to the bathroom.

“But now that I think about it ... Seina's luck is pretty unpredictable ... maybe they've have fallen and can't get up.”

“Oh, that's true!” She stopped teasing Seiryo and made remarks that gave her a good excuse to go with him. “Would you like to go see them? By the way, the bathroom is this way.”

“Well then, let's go!” Seiryo nodded, and began running to the bathroom with Gyokuren. Seiryo ran with tremendous momentum, half because he wanted to see Amane, half because Gyokuren was behind him and she scared him.

“Amane, you're safe now! Your dear Seiryo has come to help!” Seiryo opened the door to the bathroom with a kick and looked around.

“What the hell are you doing here?” Amane asked.

Seiryo looked back at the entrance to spot Gyokuren so she could vouch for him being there but she was not there.

Amane smiled and then began assaulting Seiryo. He flew out the roof and landed on the windshield of Kiriko's air car which was driving on the road just outside of Amane's apartment. She kept driving and turned on the wipers and wiped him off.

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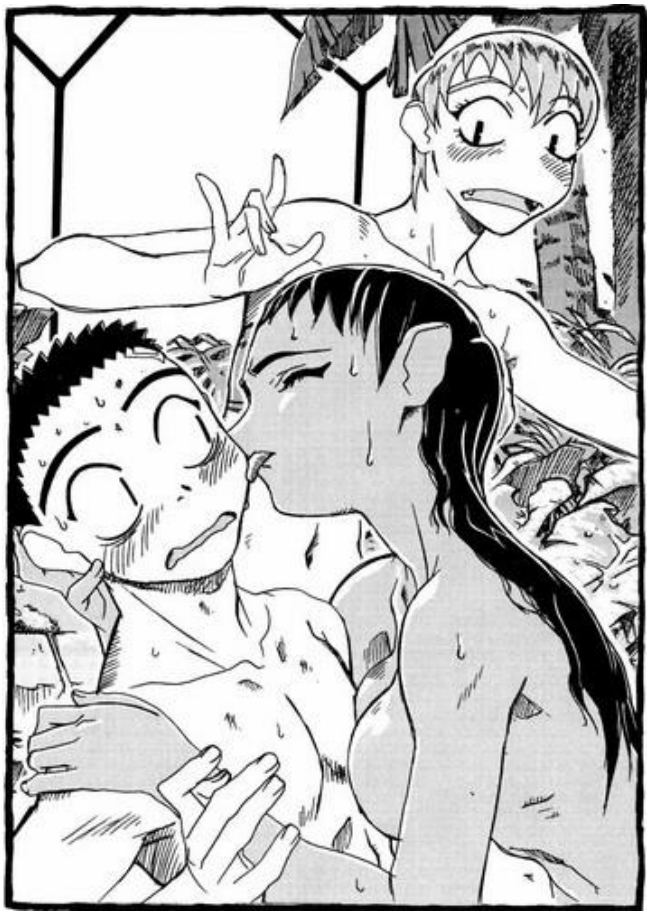
Back in the bathroom the glass from the shattered ceiling crumbled into the bath and began to liquefy as it was sucked into the drain. The window began repairing itself as wind blew through it. Amane let out a sigh.

“Amane ... don't you think that was a bit much ... .” Seina said while diverting his gaze from Amane's naked body.

“Why won't he just die already? Oh.....?” Amane noticed that Seina was standing so as to shield Karen from debris of the damaged glass. The glass was designed not to scratch people, but even so Seina's face and body still had small red scratches all over it.

“Seina!” Karen noticed them too and began to lick Seina's wound like an animal.



“Karen! What are you doing?”

“Don't move.”

Karen restrained Seina, he was dizzy from the feeling of Karen's chest hitting his skin, and Karen kept licking Seina. Amane was shocked.

“What are you doing, Karen!”

“What?! ..... Oh!” Karen noticed how awkward what she was doing looked and jumped away from Seina and turned red. “Oh...I'm sorry ... I forgot I'm not in my hometown ... ... you see my race's saliva has an antibacterial property that is stronger than most antibiotics, so in an emergency like this ...”

“Ahaha, what kind of weird ability is that?” Amane laughed.

“……uhm well……”

“Well then I guess it can't be helped,” Amane jumped back in the bath with Seina. When the three suddenly felt a violent chill in the air, Amane and Seina remembered that feeling from before.

“Can you explain to me just exactly what it is you are doing!?” Kiriko yelled from the entrance of the bathroom. She looked terrifying.

“Ki, Kiriko! ....., and.... Miki-senpai?”

“Eh!?” Kiriko got confused.

“Miki-san is right next to you... ... didn't you not know?”

“I have been with you since you left the GP Academy ... Seina! What exactly is going on here?” Miki asked angrily.

“Well, that is ... ...”

“Oh Kiriko, you’re back. Jealous as ever I see.” Gyokuren said appearing behind them with excellent timing. Although her appearance and words were equivalent to a gas tanker truck showing up at a fire and crashing into it.

“... ... Seina-chan .....” Kiriko’s anger, which had calmed down, caught fire again, and the situation further deepened her confusion. Amane and Karen lost the energy to think up excuses and hid behind Seina. But that act further fueled the anger of Kiriko and Miki. Kiriko and Miki began shaking their shoulders like a micro quake that happened before a volcanic eruption. The pressure from the two people surpassed that of Seto.

“Ah, ah ah ah ah ah,” Amane and Karen began to tremble without getting stuck in place.

“It's not what you think, Kiriko-san, Miki-senpai ... ... this is a misunderstanding.”

“Huh, what's a misunderstanding?” A passionate, dignified man's voice called through the room.

“Oh my, it seems we've arrived at an odd time, ohoho.” An elegant and gentle woman’s voice softened the tight air.

“Muh, muh ..... Mother” Amane suddenly appeared surprised to see a middle-aged man and women.

“Huh?” Inside the bathroom the bad mood from before suddenly quieted down.

“Oh... guests... I'll go make some tea” said Gyokuren sneaking out of the bathroom happily.

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In the living room of the penthouse, the awkward atmosphere had grown even more complicated. The biggest cause of this was the confrontation between Amane and her father, Masumi Kaunaq. There on the couch were Amane's parents, both of them were gorgeous, but not as much as Amane.

Seina watched Amane's parents with interest, this was his first time meeting them. The central cause of this awkward atmosphere was Seina, but for now he was in the eye of the storm. For the time being, he had no idea the situation that was about to arise.

(But why is Miki senpai here?) He wondered. As he looked over at her, Karen stood behind her. (And why is Karen still here watching this situation.....?)

“Here you go,” Gyokuren said, interrupting Seina's train of thought. Gyokuren placed a small cup of coffee in front of Amane.

“So, what did you come here for?”

“Because your mother really wanted to see you in person, I just happened to tag along.” Amane's mother, Nature (*na too ray) Kaunaq, smiled. “Your mother says that after you left the house, her appetite has disappeared, and every night seeing your photo makes her look sad! So today I shall take you home. I'm finally doing it.” Masume said. Next to him Nature shook her head with a smile and denied it.

“You always tell me not to indulge mother!”

“But I never meant you should quit modeling for Kaunaq and join the GP ... to live with a man in such a shabby house. Do you really live together like this?”

“This is different. Seina and my relationship is that between a teacher and her student ...”

“Is it normal in a student teacher relationship to take a bath together with a maid, to massage your student, and have the maid lick them?”

Karen chimed in. “I am sorry for disturbing your conversation, but I was just disinfecting the wounds he had received during practice training ...”

“Is this true?” Masumi asked.

“That's not what it looked like!” Miki said, causing Masume to nearly have a stroke.

“Amanee ~~~!!” Masume screamed.

“Miki! Don't complicate things!” Kiriko said.

“I was just making an honest comment.”

“This isn't the time or place for that!”

“God damn it, everyone shut up!” Amane yelled. Everyone got quiet as she looked at Masume determinedly. “I will tell you all this clearly, I will not return to Kaunaq, not now, not ever.”

Masume was brought to tears. “My Amane used to be so beautiful and obedient .... What happened?” He took a mobile picture from his pocket. A Three-dimensional picture emerged from the terminal. Everyone who saw it gasped.

“…… she was cute.”

There was a picture of a young Amane dressed up like a doll, wearing a gorgeous dress full of ruffles, with long flowing hair at around age ten.

“My father ..... I understand your feelings, but Amane-sama is not a child anymore... .... her innocence is long gone.” NB said in Airi's voice.

“Shut up, you stupid tin can!” Amane struck the NB down onto the table with force and Kiriko took it off the table and into the kitchen.

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Erma came out of Kiriko's homeroom office confused. “That's strange, where is she? I can't get a hold of her ... .” As she came downstairs, Erma found Kenneth and Rajau, who were about to return to class with Miki's friends.

“You guys, hey! You're Seina's roommates, right? Have you seen Kiriko?”

“Oh, Erma! Long time no see!” Like a puppy reunited with its owner, Rajau came up to Erma. But Rajau was not the only one to run.

“Wow, your hair is really white! What a beautiful woman ~~”

“She sure is, senpai.”

“Hi I’m Caliche, nice to meet you.”

“Oh, uhm... ... I'm Erma.

“Quit that Caliche, you’re startling Erma.” The other one of Miki's friends said, pulling Caliche away from Erma.

“Sorry, in our hometown a white-haired Wau is a symbol of good luck and having God's favor.”

“Oh, by the way I am Miranda Martis.”

“Oh... hi, have you by any chance seen Kiriko Masaki around here?” Erma asked.

“I saw Ms. Masaki, running off with Miki an hour ago.”

“Miki-san ... ... you mean Miki Steinbeck?”

“Yes, that's right.”

“Thank you. Please excuse me, I don't mean to be rude but I'm in a hurry.” Erma said and she ran back to Kiriko's office.

“I just have to find Miki's whereabouts”, she said as she activated the monitor and accessed the management system for teachers. She searched for Miki's whereabouts. Her position was displayed in a few seconds.

“Oh, that's strange, there outside the Academy premises ....., in Amane's penthouse!?” Erma panicked and rushed to hack into NB's visual cortex using a trick Airi had taught her.

“Airi! What are you doing using NB?!!” Kiriko yelled at the NB, with a terrifying look on her face.

“Ah!!” Erma jumped backwards in surprise.

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“What are you doing there? It's almost time for your next class!”

“I uhm ... ... I forgot”

“Miki also has an afternoon class so please bring her back.”

“Well, you're right ... but ... hurry up and quit poking around in NB, ok...?” Kiriko said.

“What’s that Kiriko-chan? I can't he-” Airi pretended to lose communication.

“A, Airi-sama! That's not funny, I'm serious.....”

“I understand the situation. However, abandoning your post at school is serious. Although it concerns Seina that is not a priority. Come back to the Academy immediately along with Miki Steinbeck. That is your top priority. “

“Yes, understood.”

“Oh, Kiriko-sama,” Karen said sneaking up behind Kiriko.

Kiriko jumped.

“I'm sorry about what happened in the bathroom, I was careless, I accompanied Seina and Amane to the bathroom, but in the bathroom I was told to take off my clothes ... and I didn't want to, but they stripped me and next thing I knew I was thrown into the bath.” Karen said like a puppy dog being scolded by its master. Kiriko smiled. She knew Karen was a serious and sincere person and realized she was only trying to do her duties. She knew that when she wasn't around Karen was the most reliable person in the place.

“Okay, I believe you. Please! No more apologizing!” Kiriko smiled, and put her hand on Karen's shoulder, then she left the room and headed for Miki in the living room.

“Miki, we need to get back to the GP Academy soon.”

“You're just going to leave Seina here like this?” Miki said, having the same reaction Kiriko would have had. Behind them there was an intense amount of tension between Amane and her father. Nature Kaunaq was the only one pretending that everything was fine. Seina was clearly uncomfortable.

“..... It's a waste of time to talk about this ... Seina, let's train outside.” Amane stood up and dragged Seina off grasping his arm.

“Then, if you two are teacher and a student, let me make sure you are training him properly.”

“You're in the way, go home!” Amane went out to the garden with Seina. Kiriko grabbed Miki’s arms to keep her from following.

“Come on, we need to go back to school”

“Are you giving me an order as a teacher?” That expression on Miki's face seemed to despise her in that moment. Kiriko knew what she wanted to say.

“It's appropriate to be concerned about Seina, but it's not going to do you any good to get involved Miki.”

“Fine, take me back.” Miki walked towards the entrance. Kiriko chased after her.

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“Alright, today we will be doing something a bit more challenging.” Bricks were piled on each other on a mound of gardening soils, flowers, and dirt placed in the garden. And as with the blocks, semi-transparent finished projections were displayed for reference. “First fix the foundation of the bricks by lightly digging holes,” Amane told Seina.

Seina tried to dig and accidentally dug a large hole. “Ah!”

“Don't be impatient, the point is to train, not to complete the entire thing.”

“Understood” Seina pulled his hand out of the hole and began digging the soil slowly.

“Please, why don't you sit down?” Karen said to Amane's parents, gesturing to the sofa by the window. There was a table in front of it and Gyokuren put some iced tea down for them on it.

“Thank you ... . How nice ... ... so... what kind of man is he?”

“What?”

“You know who I mean... ... that man ... .” Masumi was also overwhelmed by the beauty of Gyokuren, so he talked while looking away from her.

“I am sorry, I am unable to talk about my master's private matters.” And, for some reason, Gyokuren handed NB to Masumi and disappeared towards the kitchen.

“Huh, what's this... ...? Maybe she means I should ask this thing?” Masumi wondered, looking to Nature, his wife.

* * * **Translators’ note: Nature, whose name is pronounced Nah Tu Reh, and you know damn well you have been mispronouncing it this whole time. * * ***

“What's your name?” Nature did not answer Masumi's question. Nature spoke directly to NB.

“I'm preliminarily called NB for the time being. Thank you, beautiful lady.”

“No, thank you.”

“Yes, yes, whatever, NB answer my question... what kind of man is he?”

“Yamada Seina. From the frontier of Earth like the current Juraian Queen Masaki Funaho Jurai-sama.”

“Oh really... ...”

“He has a thing going with the other women who live in this house as well.”

“What!”

“So, is Amane being cheated on!?”

“Today Amane fed him breakfast in a naked apron.”

“Why! He is underage ...!”

“Also, on the way to the Academy before he registered, he rounded up a large number of pirates which Seto Kamiki Jurai captured, and he has captured many criminals so far including Widow. He is already a multi billionaire.”

“..... What an unforgivable man.”

“He seems like a nice boy though.” Nature said.

“Well he is.” Karen said from behind Amane's parents.

“That is to say, NB's explanation of him is a bit of an exaggeration. Seina and the situation with the women in this house is pretty complicated.”

“No, I won't believe that a man who surrounds himself by beautiful maids like you and her all afternoon, can be anything other than scum!”

“Even if that is so, what does it matter to you?” Nature asked.

“Well, I uhm... ....” Not only Masumi but also Karen became a bit confused at Nature's words.

“Look at the face of our girl as she is watching Seina ...” Nature looked at Amane in the garden.

Amane, who had a mean expression when looking at Masumi, had a gentle and smiling expression on her face and occasionally laughed light heartedly while commanding Seina.

“She's enjoying herself.”

“... .... My little girl... ... is gone.” Tears came out of Masumi's eyes as he stared at Amane. He realized Amane was happy.

“But isn't he too young?”

“It is still too early to think of such a thing. He's better than any of the other men we tried hooking her up with.” Nature took out a handkerchief and handed it to Masumi. He took it, and nodded.

“Let's go home.”

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Amane watched her parent's limo drive away from over the garden balcony. Seina was in doubt about whether or not he should have talked to Amane. This was a family problem and Seina was an outsider to the situation, and Amane was older than him. She might not have been comfortable taking advice from a young boy who hadn't experienced life yet.

(Would it be better to keep silent after all?) Seina thought. However……, it was impossible for Seina to keep his mind off the sad expression on Amane's face. “... ... are you alright?” he asked.

Amane put her hands on the fence and moved her eyes from the highway when her parent’s car became too far to see. “Whenever I meet my father, this is the way it is ... to think he doesn't believe I'm qualified as a teacher...”

“I was surprised for a moment to meet him but ... well I was relieved.”

“Relieved?” Amane said, looking at Seina strangely.

“No matter how science develops, things are just like they are on Earth, everyone cries and laughs ...” Seina's face was too pure, Amane got lost in his eyes.

“I didn't hate modeling,” Amane said thinking of the photo her father had shown. “But the thing is, as long as I'm a Kaunaq ... I would never be able to know how far I would be able to go in modeling on my own merit. So, I joined the GP because how I advance here has nothing to do with being a Kaunaq.”

“Teacher ... Do you like working in the GP?”

“I was desperately trying hard at it and I was finally becoming a first-class detective, before I was downgraded to a GP academy lecturer ...”

“I'm sorry teacher.”

“But then again ... I find this entertaining and rewarding in its own way, so it's not that bad.” Amane was smiling a full smile, she put her hand on Seina's head.

“…… uhm,” Seina looked up at Amane.

“Your crew cut... ... it feels good.”

“Oh ... Miss Mitoto said the same thing.”

“Oh...? ..... Ah ha ha, I understand why, it's like petting a puppy dog who has bad luck.” Amane said.

A white glove was thrown on Seina's face ruining the atmosphere. “Amane, I'm safe and I've come back to save you. Seina Yamada! I challenge you to a dual!” Seiryo said.

Amane’s right fist smashed into Seiryo abdomen as he tried to approach Amane, trying to hug her. He flew 5 meters into the sky and collapsed back down and passed out.

“Shit, she is as merciless with Seiryo as ever isn't she?” Gyokuren asked Karen in the living room.

“I'd do the same if he spoiled the atmosphere like that.” Karen said as she looked at the NB floating by her side.

“What did you do to Seina's NB?”

“Oh, did you notice?”

“Be careful if you do anything funny to it Kiriko will kill you.” Karen said.

Amane called, “Gyokuren! Karen! Come over here! I need you to put Seiryo in a block of cement and sink him in the deepest underwater trench on this planet!”

“Yes, understood.” Gyokuren happily ran over to Amane.

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After returning to the academy, Kiriko and Erma organized the data they had been sent from each department together in Mikami's office. However, since the work procedure was already pre-programmed, they were basically only monitoring it to make sure it did its job.

Erma grew bored and got up to make coffee from a nearby dispensing pod. She gave a cup to Kiriko. “It looks like we will be finished sooner than I expected.”

“Well, the survey itself is simple, but it's hard to do the follow-up survey.”

“That's not our job luckily ... so... What did you talk with Miki Steinbeck about?”

“..... Nothing, she didn't have anything to really say.”

“Oh no, is it possible that she meant to confront you as a sort of declaration of war?”

“That might not be too far from the truth, but if she is serious about Seina it is a problem for him not me.”

“Hmm, it seems like your outlook on her has changed since this morning ... is that because Airi told you that she resembles your mother?”

“My evaluation of her hasn't changed, but if she wants to pursue Seina she's free to do so, but I won't allow her to hurt Seina ... that's all.”

“Oh, so that's what it is?”

“Why does it concern you Erma?”

“I'm just curious.”

Erma, noticed the door of the Principal's office opening. Mikami came in and quickly sat in her seat. “Give me a report on your findings.” Mikami said getting up to check over Erma and Kiriko's shoulders to check on their monitors.

“I am in the process of organizing the data sent from each department, but at the moment there have been no problems with the students' checks and they're likely to be finished later today.”

“Fine, starting tomorrow everyone can get back to the regular curriculum.”

“Yes, I'll notify everyone tomorrow.”

Ping ping!

At that time, a small warning sound was heard from Kiriko's monitor.

“This girl again!” Erma stood up and looked at Kiriko's monitor.

“What's wrong with that student? ... Miki Steinbeck ... is this …!?” Erma who saw the personal data displayed was surprised.

“Oh, that girl is fine.” Mikami calmly said.

“Mikami, did you know about this?”

“She was at the entrance ceremony, but Airi seems interested in her so leave her alone for now, ho ho ho.”

“Wow, but this is just obvious ...” The data pointed out by Kiriko indicated that Miki's brain was artificial.

“Airi also expressed respect for her. From an engineering standpoint she is quite unique.” That said, Mikami displayed another piece of data.

“This is ... an Astral! Then that girl... is a Pinocchio.”

“Wow, it is my first time seeing such a thing.” Kiriko and Erma said watching the data.

She was an Artificial Intelligence with an Astral that had human rights encased in an android shell. Like Kirche, she was to be treated as a person.

“Okay, in that case, I'll mark her as normal.”

“Good, then please continue with the work.” Mikami said as she headed to her desk and started on her work as Principal. Erma looked at Kiriko's expression for a while before she returned to her seat and resumed monitoring.

“But I didn't know he had a daughter... ... or that he was ever even married.” While watching Miki's data, Kiriko remembered Tsukiko's words. (Well, it's natural that she resembles her mother) In the past, Kiriko had only gotten small hints about what had happened between her mother and Miki's father, Hiroshi, she sighed in her mind.

“……Oh?” When she snapped back to reality, Kiriko noticed that a small monitor was running. (Notice of delivery completion ...!) It was a notification from the GP home delivery department that they completed the delivery of the valuables she had sent. At the same time Kiriko received it, Ringo woke up to the bustle of a familiar scene.

“Oh, did you wake up?” It was Seto that was looking into Ringo with and amazingly happy looking face.

“... Hello, Seto!” Ringo shot up reflexively. She was on the bridge of the Mikagami. Seto surrounded her along with Minaho, who was looking at her with apologetic eyes.

“Ringo! Ringo!” Honoka's terminal body jumped on top of her head, Ringo finally understood the situation that she was in.

“Did Kiriko do this?”

“You have to be careful when trying to get close to someone she loves.”

“... Yes. I think she drugged me with that cup of tea.”

“Well, Kiriko will be Kiriko-chan...” Seto said knowing full well she had accidentally provided the sleeping nano-machine sake the other day.

“It's a pity that I couldn't express my gratitude directly to Seina, but really it was just my intention to hand over the assets he has acquired from Widow.”

“Oh is that all you wanted to do?”

“It's awkward enough having to deal with Kiriko-san and I don't even want to imagine dealing with Ms. Hakuren ... ... Also, our work is just piling up lately and if I took a moment to pursue such a thing I'd never see the light of day again,” Ringo said smiling a smiley smile that was so painfully painful.

Everyone except Seto was unable hold back their tears at the thought of their workloads, and the sobs started to leak from the surroundings.

“Well that sounds ...boring.” Seto said ruining the atmosphere. All the eyes in the room focused on her in condemnation. Minaho also starred at Seto. But Seto was un-phased by such a thing.

“What? I'd rather take the more interesting route,” Seto said.

“Seto-sama! ..... Quit encouraging Ringo.” Minaho said.

“By the way Seto-sama, some unknown money was added to the amount Seina was to receive by the accounting staff, would you please explain to me the details of this?” Ringo switched from her adorable everyday mode to her aggressive business mode.

“Eh?” Seto turned pale and hung her metaphorical tail between her legs.

“Well ... Come on ... Please explain ... Thanks to Seina, we can afford it, but waste is not something I am willing to forgive.”

“Eh, yeah yeah yeah yeah I got you!”

“Now, please explain!” Ringo demanded.

Seto got ready to cry, Ringo stared at her with a frustratingly cold look.

“Minaho! Minaho!!! Ringo... is scary ~~~!” Honoka, surprised by Ringo's mood, hid behind Minaho's shoulder. Minaho gently stroked Honoka as he trembled in fear.

“When she finishes her work, she will return to her former gentle Ringo-y self, so please go back to your ship and wait.”

“Okay!”

“M-Minaho, help me ~” Minaho turned around to see Seto begging for help. Minaho took Honoka and headed for the transfer gate. And the crowds around Seto quickly vanished to let Ringo and her have their space.

Chapter Six: Miki and Seina · Aftermath

*** * * Translators' note: This is day 33. * * ***

That morning, Seina put on his school uniform for the first time in three weeks. "It's been awhile since I went to the GP Academy ..." He had finished his Bio-Enhancement training without any problems and was to resume schooling at the GP Academy from that day on. His classes were mostly going to be communication and practical skills and things of that nature. Amane and Kiriko had caught him up, so there was no lapse in his teaching.

"I solved the biggest problem which was physical fitness so now I just have to keep going."

"Well, sonny, soon it will be a long time I reckon since ya got here." NB said in an old man voice.

"NB ..., please don't do anything strange at school, everything that goes on here is a secret."

"I understand young man, I've been keeping secrets since before you were a young whippersnapper."

"Yes, but sometimes you bring up some strange things, well, Erma said it wouldn't be an issue though and if she says so then I guess its ok."

Kiriko came in pushing a food cart. "Good morning, Seina."

Following Kiriko, Gyokuren and Karen came in, they carried with them a large table and began preparing for breakfast. By the time the preparation had almost finished Erma and Amane came in.

After Amane's parents visited unexpectedly, life at Amane's House calmed down. Of course, it also helped that Seiryo, Airi and Miki weren't around causing trouble, but it was also due to them all coming to know each other and their living habits.

Amane, Kiriko, and Erma began assisting Seina with the classes that they specialized in and Hakuren and the maids kept watch on Seina. Seina's room quickly became the place for everyone to hang out instead of the living room, and breakfast was now held in Seina's room. (Somehow, it looks like we're all one big family.) Although it had only been three weeks, the atmosphere at breakfast was enough to make Seina think that way.

"Seina-chan, in a week or so we will begin to move you back to the dormitory, so please start getting the things you need for that together. If you have anything else you need, let me know and I will buy it for you," Kiriko said.

"... ... It's ok, I have everything I need."

"The dormitory is close to here, if you have something you need, you can come pick it up from here easily. And don't forget, if you want you can come over any time." Amane said. She sounded

like her father Masumi, like she didn't really want Seina to go, but no one pointed this out for fear of angering her.

“Amane, don't forget you are also a lecturer at the GP Academy so you will be seeing him throughout the day. Oh, that reminds me it's time for us to go.”

“Yes, let's get going,” Erma said, standing up and finishing off her coffee.

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“Your ride is here.” Gyokuren and Karen presented Erma's car to her at the door of the house. They got in and drove off through the highway connecting Amane's island apartment to the mainland. The sunny sky and the brilliant tropical aquamarine sea shone green with the morning sun and the coral reefs inside it made for a spectacular view as they drove to the academy.

“You know, now that you're going to be gone from Amane's, I'm going to miss you a bit” said Erma.

“I uhm ... ... I also like that house, are you still going to live there Erma?”

“Well, I ended my lease with the place where I was living before, and I don't have to pay rent at Amane's, and I don't have to make meals. We have maids to do all the chores, and the living situation is pretty great. I see no reason to move. Besides, I've never been roommates with people the same age as me, it's a lot of fun.”

“What about when you went to school?”

“I... uhm... the people who raised ... ... uh... I moved here to work; I have never been to school. But even if I get to live with my work colleagues, it still won't be the same without you.”

“Really?”

“But I have never really been that lonely because face it, I'm pretty cute.” Erma replied with a smile and a wink. She was the polar opposite when compared with Seina, who was shunned by everyone around him.

“Please come back for the occasional holiday ... ... it's always fun to hang out with friends.”

“I will find time and try to return as often as I can ... ... after all that's my home.” Seina looked happy, as he watched the island disappear behind them. Their conversation stopped and time passed without words for a while. A couple minutes later, the car approached a group of GP academy students on the sidewalk. Erma noticed Rajau and Caliche in it, she stopped the air car a little bit away from the crowd so that they wouldn't bother Seina.

“Sorry, Seina, you might get a little bit of attention today, so I’ll drop you off here”

“Thank you for taking me to school.” Seina got out of the car with NB.

“Have a nice day! Be careful!” Erma waved and winked, then she U-turned the air car and went into a small side street. At the same time Rajau and Caliche ran up to Seina.

“Seina, how are you! Was that Erma driving that car just now?!”

“Why did she drop you off?”

“..... Uhm, Rajau, who is this person ...” Seina said looking at Caliche. Seina saw Elroy and Fingu running at the top and noticed that the group Rajau was waiting with was filled with members of the Amane and Kiriko fan clubs, so Seina quickly tried to escape. However, Rajau and Caliche kept him from running off and he was soon surrounded by a large number of students.

“Were not letting you go till you tell us about these last three weeks!” But soon a stampede of wild boars came out from the forest near the dorm and trampled the students. Three hours later there were 596 students who had been brought to the military-scale medical unit that had been hastily set up on the ground to treat the victims of the stampede. Because the GP academy instructors were all qualified to administer quasi-medical care, Kiriko and Erma were there to help, as well as the GP's medical staff, and military doctors, and a few civilian physicians. Somehow NB was also able to work in emergency situations and was also helping out.

“A stampede hasn't happened in decades! Everyone here is lucky that they aren't dead.” Mikami sighed as she looked at the sight. Next to all the injured was Seina, standing almost unharmed, with a puzzled expression on his face.

“Even though you were in the center of that runaway stampede, you only have minor injuries, I wonder if you should say that too.”

“Sorry, ma’am.”

“Ho ho ho, don't worry about it.” Mikami smiled wryly, to Seina who bowed his head many times.

“Principal Mikami, everyone has been accounted for.”

“Alright then, I'm going now.” Mikami struck Seina's shoulder, and went up to the central command center, which was on the floor above them. After Mikami was gone, Kenneth and Miranda, came up to Seina ... And after waiting a while, Miki came too.

“When I saw the disaster, I realized that Seina must've finally come home, ha ha ha!” Kenneth said.

“Everyone looks pretty banged up.”

“It serves them right. It'll teach those idiots a lesson.” Miranda said laughingly.

“Her name is Miranda. She's my teammate.” Miki explained.

“Was that Wau with Rajau ... also your teammate Miki-senpai?”

“Yes, Caliche is sleeping over there.” Miki pointed over to a capsule with the Wau girl.

“Uhm... that man ... ... is that Miki-senpai's father?”

“Once, I had to get a doctorate degree in bioengineering and a doctor's license in order to get a promotion, it's rare though that I’ve ever have an opportunity to put it to use.”

“Haa ... but ... .” The Hiroshi that Seina was familiar with was a somewhat comical and quirky scientist, but his facial expressions right now were the kind that a brave and famous doctor would have. Seina wasn't the only one who noticed. The amateurs around him were also noticed him work and seemed to admire his way of doing things.

“... Miki-senpai, your father... is he always this good at his work?”

“I wish that was always the case.... we should go out and have lunch, if we stay here we will only get in the way...” Miki said happily. She wrapped her arm around Seina's and led him outside. Kiriko watched.

“Oh wow ~ ~, you sure are being mature about the Miki situation ... you haven't made a peep at all... have you given up?” Erma asked.

“Hold on, my work is almost finished .... Done!” Kiriko quickly finished the medical work she was doing and got ready to leave the place quickly.

“Are you coming with me?” Kiriko asked Hiroshi.

“I'm still at work.”

“Sorry,” Kiriko casually bowed.

“Are you sure you're worried about Seina and not worried about Miki's father being your father?”

“He's not my father, he is just an old friend of my mothers.” Kiriko said trying to get Erma to drop the subject.

“Oh! I see...!” Erma teased Kiriko.

But Kiriko quickly glanced at Hiroshi and whispered to Erma. “But if you look at his daughter ... You might notice something about Miki.”

“Oh, I see...” Erma said.

Kiriko had noticed something in Hiroshi that reminded her of Seina. Kiriko tried to head in the direction Seina had gone, but he had just finished his bio enhancement training and was able to walk quickly like everyone else so he had gotten away from her. She realized this and immediately stopped walking, she changed direction and headed to the central command center to see Mikami.

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“Okay, we're going to go get lunch, you two go and find us a place to eat it.” Kenneth accompanied Miranda and headed towards the transfer port.

“Well then, let's get going.” Miki took Seina's hand and took him to a promenade that cut through the forest. “Remember this procedure for the future, you should be able to memorize it after only seeing it once, it’s not hard... First of all ...”

The boardwalk was built with two rows of large cobblestone stones. Miki started walking on the right side of the two rows. After about ten meters, the two rows of cobblestone turned into a single big cobblestone.

“This single stone serves as a landmark, I will walk on the left side, and when we get to the next big stone, and then we will go to the other side until the next stone, like so.” Miki released Seina's hand and began to go ahead skipping lightly.

“Uhm.... right,” Seina stood for a while fascinated by the figure of Miki skipping through the forest singing as the sunbeams shone on her.

“What are you doing? Come on!”

Seina quickly followed Miki. She grabbed him by the hand again when he caught up to her.

“Do I have to lead you again already?” Miki's tone reminded him of Kiriko's when he was a child. Miki noticed Seina thinking about this. “Hey now ... ... you're not thinking about Miss Masaki are you?”

“Oh uhm... Sorry about that ... ... yes ... Kiriko..... I was thinking about Professor Masaki ... ...”

“We seem to be very similar, Miss Masaki and me.”

“Yes, you two have the same atmosphere about you ...” Seina, who noticed that Miki's voice wasn't angry, but rather relieved.

“Actually, when I saw Miss Masaki, I was a bit surprised, probably a lot more than others think.” Miki took Seina’s hands and stopped as soon as he arrived in front of a large square area. The area was tiled with a circle of about 15 meters in diameter, consisting of stones about 5 meters in diameter.

* * * **Translators note: [O] like this but with smaller circles making up the circle.** * * *

Its surroundings were made up of elongated lithographs radially assembled like an analog clock dial. Miki grabbed Seina by the hand and began walking again.

“Now, move from here clockwise ...” Miki stopped at the stone pavement in the direction of about 2 o'clock, and again released Seina’s hand. She started walking towards the center circle from there. As soon as she entered the center, she disappeared.

“Miki-senpai!” Seina hurried after her and was enveloped in the darkness, he felt like he was floating. The next moment, he was thrown into a normal space with dazzling light.

“We've arrived!” Miki turned around and looked at Seina, smiling. Behind Miki, there was a pretty and expansive geometrically built European-style garden.

“Miki-senpai ... ... where are we?” Miki took Seina's hand as he looked around and they climbed several flights of stairs and came to a broad cobblestone terrace.

“Wow .....” He could see the full view of the GP Academy spread before him as he approached the fenced off terrace.

“Are you surprised? This is one of the floating islands in the Academy.” Miki looked at Seina's surprised expression with satisfaction. “The Floating islands were built by the Philosophy Department; aircraft are neither allowed to approach nor land on them. The way to come here is through the transfer devices. And since you must know the special patterns to get here only a few people know how to get here.”

“Oh ... ... That's amazing!”

“The key pattern was passed down from my senpai to her closest juniors. The Academy has lots of special secret gates just like this all throughout it.”

“So then is this your secret hiding place?”

“Shit, this is a relatively well known place.” Miki turned to lean back against the fence. Seina turned around as well and could see that there were quite a few students under the shade of the plants and trees nearby.

“Do you want to see my secret place?” Miki whispered in Seina's ears.

“What!! ... Uh, uh... that.... um,” Seina turned bright red.

“Ahahahaha,” Miki began to laugh at his red face.

“.....”

“I'm sorry, your reaction was just priceless ...” Miki apologized as Kenneth came though the transfer gate.

“It seems that our delivery has arrived. Let's go, Seina.” Miki took Seina and led him towards Kenneth.

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“They’re already assigning you to practical training?” Seina asked as he finished lunch on the terrace bench.

“Yes, after two years, I'll get to work at an actual site, for a half year, and then they will give me a hand full of assignments to choose from based on my aptitude. After the next half year I’ll come back and officially graduate. “

“I want to graduate as soon as possible.” Kenneth stood up posed like he was shooting a gun.

“Kenneth are you aspiring to join the criminal division?”

“Obviously, I want to become a first-class detective and catch bad guys!”

“... ... I know this is an odd question to ask, but what did it feel like to catch hundreds of space pirates all at once? What kind of person is Seto-sama? And what kind of woman was Widow?” Miranda asked Seina as if she was a nervous reporter.

“Calm down! He can't answer all those questions at once.” Miki said.

“Actually, I don't remember much of when I was chased those Space pirates ... I was just frantically fleeing. We're just lucky we got help from Seto's fleet.”

“I heard you met with Seto, and that you entered the Mikagami as well?”

“I investigated her a lot later, but from what I have seen published almost everything about her is well ... . Seto-sama was a much friendlier person than the rumors give her credit for. It's thanks to Seto-sama that I'm in space. “

“I'm so envious, there's a big difference in seeing the ship in person and seeing it on video, you are so lucky to have been invited to see it directly. Seto is such a hard person to even talk to.”

“Seina himself, was originally from the same planet as the Juraian first Empress, Funaho.” Kenneth proudly chimed in like Seina wasn't there.

“I hear you also captured Widow by yourself! Hey Kenneth are those reporters still after you about that?”

“It's been about a week or so since they last tried to chase Rajau and me down. There sure were a lot of them though.”

“Oh, I didn't realize..... I'm sorry about that” Seina said.

“Don’t worry, it's because we’re your teammates, but it's frustrating. I can't believe Rajau and I almost came so close to Widow ...”

“So, what kind of person was Widow?” Miranda got excited and turned back to Seina again.

“What kind of person... she was a normal person ... .” Seina was aware that this was a terribly stupid answer and it was far too far from the answers Miranda and the others would have liked to here.

“Huh?” She looked at Seina with confused eyes

“Well ... ... I only saw her as an ordinary person.” Seina tried to remember the situation of that time in as much as detail possible - at that time, she had called out to him, he felt an earthquake, and then the huge structure they were on dropped ..... Seina zoned out....

“Hey, Seina ...” Miki shook him back to reality.

“Huh?” As soon as he snapped back, Miki let him go and sighed.

“Your explanation of Widow is fine the way it is. I understood it somehow.” Kenneth and Miranda nodded at Miki’s words.

“... Oh... ok then.”

“So ... Miranda-senpai, Miki-senpai, where did you choose to do your practical training?” Kenneth changed the subject to break the tension.

“Caliche and I have been assigned to the courier affairs department, and Miki ... ... has been assigned to the decoy department.” Miranda said.

“Wow! The Decoy Department... ... that Decoy Department?”

“Yes, by going there Miki can choose to go anywhere she wants when she's done ... ... but I still don't know why she decided to be assigned to such a dangerous department.”

“Dangerous?” Seina said looking at Miki.

“Well, this is the GP Academy, we are the Galaxy Police, even if it's dangerous, the criminal division is far more dangerous.” Miki said trying to relieve Seina's anxiety.

“Yeah, that's right ..... but the decoy section is said to be dangerous, but it's really quite boring .....” Miki said.

“They don't catch criminals but it's an important department for the parcel delivery service.” Kenneth said.

“Ah well, I'm sorry, I'm glad I had a chance to meet Seina and you guys, but I have to go now.” Miranda said.

“So, when are you are seniors leaving for practical training?”

“Caliche and I are leaving in a week, Miki ... is leaving tomorrow.” Miranda said a bit sadly.

“What! So suddenly!” Kenneth and Seina were surprised and looked at Miki.

“Originally if there hadn't been computer problems, I would have been gone by now, but since they’re fixed they're rushing me out.” In contrast to Miranda, Miki spoke with a flat expression, and stood up with her empty lunch box.

“Miki-senpai ...”

“Half a year will pass by quickly, I'll see you then.” Miki said.

Seina tried to think of what to say but Miki quickly walked to the transfer gate with Miranda and left.

“We can see her off tomorrow, you can say goodbye then, and as she said, it's only half a year.” Kenneth said as he put his hands on Seina's shoulder and stared at the transfer gate to comfort Seina who was still looking at the place where Miki disappeared.

“Yeah, that's right, and we have to get to class soon too ....”

“Hey Kenneth. What exactly is going to happen in the Decoy Division? Miki-senpai said that it was going to be boring, but ...” Seina looked worried.

“Oh yeah ... actually it is hard for Space pirates to find a shipping ship in outer space. Of course, it's not impossible to some extent, but without any information the potential of encounter rate is close to zero, so they are always gathering in-depth information on the shipping routes. If all the information leaks can be prevented, there is no need for a decoy. But Space pirates are very organized when it comes to information gathering and there are even people who sell information to the Space pirates. So the best the GP can do is deploy a decoy ship and try and leak information leading them to the dummy ship.”

“Is that how the decoy force works?”

“Well since they deliver their location information intentionally, it's natural that their encounter rate with the Space pirates will be higher compared to the other shipping departments.”

“That sounds dangerous ...” Seina inspected Kenneth’s face awaiting a reaction. Kenneth only winked and smiled.

“Well, just because they're in a decoy ship doesn't mean they're going to be on their own undefended and it's not like she is just going to be sitting there doing nothing. Even on decoy units, there are many things to do from maintenance to clerical work, and also if the pirates capture them, they just surrender and receive a consolation prize, so there's rarely any damage done to them.”

“A consolation prize?”

“Empty containers for shipping, especially those used for decoy ships are good for sending valuable goods, they can also be used as building materials, and of course they can also be sold on the black market. In that case, the customers are usually the GP themselves.”

“Why do they buy back the stolen goods?”

“It's cheaper than building a new one and it costs less than having the shipment stolen ... ... like Miranda was saying ... ... She will be fine. Let's get going, Seina.” Kenneth got up, patted Seina on

the shoulder and they went to the transfer gate they arrived in to their classroom right before their lesson started.

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When their class was over they had a small break.

“Hey, hey Kenneth ... ... I have something to show you,” David of the Ryoko fan club called to Kenneth. Unlike his teammates, Elroy and Fingu, he was not involved in the stampede this morning.

“Me?” Kenneth asked. Next to him Seina got an email on his NB.

(Who is it from? ..... Miki senpai!) Seina, confirmed that no one was around and began reading it.

“Huh, I see. ...”

“Hey, NB!” Kenneth said.

“Oh, ahhh!” Seina jumped. NB erased the email suddenly. The bell for the next class rang. Amane was in her classroom waiting for the next class

“I thought we were supposed to be back at work again.”

“It can’t be helped, class was canceled in the afternoon due to the stampede this morning, by the way did you hear about Miki?”

“I know, she's been assigned to the decoy department.”

“If you are thinking of suddenly changing departments to spy on her you should ask Airi.”

“No. No. Kiriko is much better off assigned to Seina!” Airi said suddenly appearing behind the two. Kiriko and Amane didn't seem too surprised.

“Airi, aren't you supposed to be at work?”

“I am at work.” Airi brought up a monitor to show Kiriko the email NB had received from Miki.

“Here! I got this from NB this afternoon” Airi said, boasting a bit before remembering that Amane didn't know that NB had a spy feature.

“Don't worry I figured out what was going on a while ago.” Amane was smiled at Airi.

“Well, it's a trivial matter really, the most important issue is Seina! We have no time to discuss my wrong doings when Seina could be making plans to get it on with Miki!” Airi clasped her fist in resolve.

“Okay whatever...” The three of them stared at the monitor. Each started working on their plan that would be dubbed the “Seina and Miki's Last Goodbye Meeting Interference Operation.” Or the SMLGMIO.

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After class was over, Seina got up from the monitor he was working on and NB followed him.

“Oh, Seina. Wanna go hang out for a while?” Kenneth asked.

“Sorry, I'm in a bit of a hurry ...!” Seina said and he tried to run off but soon a group of students came in front of him and blocked his path.

“Apparently the information in that anonymous email seems to be true.” David their leader said.

“Uhuhuhuhu, you might as well give up meeting Miki-senpai until you answer our interview Seina.”

“What!? Why?” Seina was in a hurry though and he knew that behind him was a fenced off area with a staircase that went down to the floor below. The problem with that being that it was unstable and rickety. (Because it's me, I know if I go there I’ll probably trip and fall off the ledge ... Oh, but what about the fence!) The fence was a grid of thick pipes, and it seemed that people could get through it easily enough. Seina held NB and dashed for it, he ducked down and slid under the gap between the fence and the wall. But he slid a bit too much through the gap and found himself on the edge of the cliff looking down. (Alright!) Seina quickly regained his balance and climbed down the stairs and got on the transfer pad.

“Wow!” The students who had been chasing him were amazed by his swift getaway.

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In Airi's office, she and Kiriko were carrying out their plan when suddenly NB, who they were using to track Seina strayed off course and disappeared.

“Kiriko ... That day ... why was Miki with you on the day my fucking father came?”

“What ... ... that ... ... Oh! Damn it!” Kiriko remembered what happened that day and suddenly knew why NB disappeared.

“What's wrong?”

“Well, sorry, uhm... that girl ... ... she also knows about NB's spy function.” Kiriko turned her face away from Airi, who approached her with an angry expression.

“WHY, why, why!?”

“I sort of ..... was using it to spy on Amane. Ah ha ha!”

“It's not a laughing matter! Ooooo, that girl! ... I will find her, even if I have to use the Academy's first-class alert network! I will find Seina and you, Miki Steinbeck and I will keep Seina out of your evil, evil hands!” Airi said intensely.

“Ms. Kiriko Masaki, you have a Delivery ~ ~” a voice knocked on the door.

“Yes, I will go right now and pick it up.” Kiriko said sneaking off to the door to get away from Airi.

“Thank you for your hard work, what is it? ..... Ah!” The delivery man presented her with a crate. She signed for it... and it had a ton of wrapping on it as if it had been duct taped over and over again. After struggling to unwrap it. She found NB inside.

“Hey! Why are you there! Get over here and help.” Airi said throwing random things towards Kiriko and NB.

“Wait a moment, what is that?”

“Ah ~ ~ Oh, you got it back! Brilliant! ... Hey Kiriko, what's wrong?”

“Oh, nothing, nothing.” Despite saying that, Kiriko's expression was obviously worried. She noticed a small message card in the case. There was a handwritten letter written there.

“Damn, damn it, damn that girl! I'll begin the search for Seina using the high-level surveillance system! Kiriko, please ask NB for assistance!”

“Ms. Airi, let's stop this ... ... we can't win.”

“Huh?” Amane who was on Airi's side was confused by Kiriko's statement.

“It is our role to protect Seina as his teachers!”

“You Traitor ...”

“Did I ever tell you how Minaho was conceived?”

Airi whispered in Kiriko's ear. Suddenly Airi started smiling.

“Minaho was born because Airi and Masaki Yosho Jurai did it once back when they were in school at the academy because she was leaving.”

“... ..., Kiriko-chan, who did you hear that from... Who?”

“From Ms. Minaho herself.”

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Miki stood in front of Seina and led him into the depths of the forest with no words said between them. Seina looked around uneasily as they walked.

“Miki-senpai, where did you send my NB in that box and why?”

“The place we’re going to now is secret to all other people, no matter who they are.”

“Haha.”

Miki paused and looked back to Seina, she looked somewhat irritated.

“You don't need to think too much about it, this is just a tradition .... A kind of ceremony ... and I sent NB to Miss Masaki, so don't worry.” That said, Miki started walking again.

(……Hmm?) Miki noticed that Seina's footstep behind her changed a bit. If the woods weren't grassy she might have not noticed. She looked back and Seina was still there. But she remembered … (That's right ..... This sound, the Wild Beasts of the forest that I've met several times in the forest ... ...) Miki realized that Seina was cautiously walking and looking out for them. However, he was doing it subconsciously.

“Seina, why are you walking so cautiously...?”

“I grew up in the country, so I'm used to such a place, and that's just how I’m used to walking in them.”

“Oh ... ok, I guess that makes sense.” Suddenly the trees ended and opened up to stone laying in the same shape as the walking path from earlier that day. The place looked like decaying ruins in the forest, it was covered with moss and weeds.

“Is this where we enter?”

“Yes, but the code is a bit different... first of all, we need to do the same procedure as the one to get to that floating island. What is different from the previous one is that it goes over here a little more and goes from the 3 o'clock direction to the center this time.”

Seina followed Miki and stepped onto the center disk. The transmission light faded and Seina saw that they were in a dim forest just like the place they were before. There was a meter long disk-shaped stone that Seina was transferred to and a stone pillar as high as one meter behind Miki.

“I'm sorry there's a lot of work to get where were going, but this is the gate that leads to our destination.” Miki smiled and placed her right hand on the stone pillar. Bing!

The stone pillar began to produce a subtle light and a sound like when a wind chime made of crystal sounds. “Seina, can you hit that button next to my right hand?”

Seina put his hand slowly on the part of the stone pillar with a rectangular cross section polished like a mirror. “This is biometric registration; the code will not work unless you’re registered by a previously registered person ..... If you are authenticated, you can jump directly, see!”

Unlike the previous transfers, Seina felt a floating feeling. This was a much darker place than the forest. He looked up and saw a zigzag on the ceiling through which light was leaking.

“Come on!” Miki was leading Seina with her warm, soft hands though the dark. As they went on, the light began to get brighter. Eventually Seina noticed the place was a narrow alley at the bottom of a steep cliff and the lighting was the sky.

“That is a pretty high cliff.” Seina was reflexively cautious about objects falling from the cliffs but Miki's grip calmed him. Miki stopped in front of the exit to their destination, she suppressed the impulse to want to show him her favorite place right away. It was more important to make sure it was safe for him. Even though it was dark, the lack of light gave her poor vision, she decided to take time to let her pupils adjust before going out to the open place outside. There could have been danger our there for Seina. Of course Seina was used to coping with such situations. But it was better to avoid unnecessary dangers altogether.

“Alright, we arrived.” Miki released Seina's hand and slowly went outside. Seina’s eyes adjusted to the light and he could see a grassland and flower garden come into view. Seina slowly and carefully walked outside.

“..... oh, wow ~~”

The scenery was beautiful and looked like it was a bright watercolor painting. The fresh air and brilliant green were filled with the brilliant colors of the rich variety of flowers within it, and the light of the sun reflected on the dew on the flowers.

“I'm glad you like it.” Miki said and she burst out laughing watching Seina's reaction to the scenery.

Seina looked around at the scenery until Miki’s laughter ceased. Where they were was at the bottom of a huge hole surrounded by a nearly vertical cliff wall. But the hole was angled on the slope of a mountain. For that reason the light of the sun fully illuminated the inside of the hole.

“This is a beautiful flower garden.” Seina said.

“It looks like it's a flower garden but look a little closer.” Miki stabbed the ground with a nearby stick. The stick pierced the ground and water came up from it.

“Water? Miki-senpai, this is ...”

“Everything that looks like a meadow is actually grown on top of a lake. Everything here is a group of aquatic plants, and the flowers are all of the same kind of plant even though they look different.”

“Really? Miki-senpai, the flowers all look different... ....”

“I don't even know all the details, but the important thing here is that it's beautiful.” Miki winked.

“I'm sorry.”

“I have something I'd like to talk to you about, but let's explore a bit more first.” Miki took Seina's arm and pulled him into a stone passage about 2 meters wide installed along the cliff. They emerged at a place with lots more exposed water with long thin rocks peeking through the surface of the water. Several trees grew on the rocks, it looked like an ink painting of a mountain valley.

“We’re going over there.” Miki said pointing to a cave.

“You're joking, right?”

She took Seina's hand as they crossed a steppingstone bridge heading for the cave. However, if you looked closely, the bridge was made of steppingstones, but it was a combination of rectangular stones without gaps. It incorporated a whitish stone into the pebbled stone to make it look like a steppingstone. Perhaps the steppingstones were subjected to a process that made it difficult for the moss to grow on it. In the vicinity of the cave there was no water grass covering the surface of the water. The water wasn't that deep and the white sand at the bottom of the water was swaying blue. The fish in the water had dark silver scales that glittered around the pillar supporting the bridge.

“Wow, look at the fish.” Seina looked into the surface of the water like a small child.

“C’mon on, let's hurry up.” Miki said, pulling Seina like a mother pulling a child away from a shiny toy. The inside of the cave was wider than he thought, there was nothing but a bench about 1 meter long that lined the inner wall. The cave itself was about 20 square meters and had a staircase to the second floor. Miki pulled Seina's hand as if to hurry and went up the stairs.

“Wow ...” They went up the stairs. The sight in front of them opened up into a scene like a panorama. They could see almost a complete 180 view of the area around them. It was as if there were no walls around them at all. They could see the sea and many islands and in the distance snow peaked mountains could be seen.

“Do you like it?” Miki asked.

“Of course, but uhm...where are we in the Academy exactly?”

“Here is a paradise, a country of dreams, a retreat from prying eyes, but be careful the time zone here is over six hours away from the GP Academy.”

“Oh ... ... is that why it looks so different?”

The color and atmosphere of the scenery, which was illuminated by the dazzling sunlight, was really refreshing. It was late evening at the GP Academy, but it was morning here.

“After the flowering season, the view changes completely.”

“Is this the flower season?”

“After the flowers bloom, it takes around a month from now as the flowers finish reproducing, and the grass on the surface of the water withers out and almost disappears completely ....., that's the best time to visit.”

“Well then, I'll check it out!”

“Oh Seina, you saw a fish right? When the grass dies it leaves a small pier. There are a lot of fish in here. The fish here are delicious enough that you can live off of them and only them if you want too, but If you fish, please eat what you catch, and don't over fish...”

“Wow ~ ~ it sounds fun .... Ah, but no one can come with me....”

“Well, it would be fun if everyone could come here, originally, this was a public place full of people. Currently there are about ten people who are registered here, so you will rarely ever run into anyone. Maybe a person and their lover from time to time. Others come here to harvest the fruit that's produced when the flowers bloom. Others come to fish. Some come here to camp overnight, but for now we have it to ourselves, in case we meet again, we can always come here to have tea or fish.”

“Oh, I am looking forward to it.”

“..... I also don't know much about it because I've only seen it in from afar, but ...” Miki pointed at something in the distance.

“... ... ... Is that ... ... a Juraian house!?”

Hidden in the shade of the East, a distinctively designed tree house was built. Seina could only see half of it because it was surrounded by big trees.

“It seems that someone comes there occasionally to tend to it but no one knows who, or how they get in there. Perhaps there's a dedicated gate into it.” Miki looked back at the lake. “Seina, I need to ask you something about my father.” Miki looked at the scenery vaguely.

“Miki-senpai's father?”

“I don't want you to take care of my father, but if you can... just check on him every now and then and make sure he is alright.”

(That’s right it's just her and her father in her family and she isn't going to be back for half a year ... ...)

“Seina, I know it's a bother... there is no one else for me to ask! ... So ...” It was unusual for Miki to ask such a thing; they hadn't known each other that long and her father and Seina did not exactly have a good first encounter.

(That's why she showed me this place.....) Miki looked like she was about to cry over asking him and for Seina this was enough reason for him to agree.

“Miki-senpai ... your father might get caught up in my luck if I do, but ... but you can leave it to me.” Seina told Miki as firmly as possible.

“Thank you, Seina,” Miki was about to cry from joy and she turned away from Seina to go back through the stairs.

“Mi... Miki-senpai!” Seina tried to grab Miki's hand but he missed. He fell into the water with a loud sound.

“Are you all right?” Miki turned around when she heard Seina fall and reached out to pull him up.

“I tripped.”

“It's too early to swim here, it's still too cold... haha”

“Maybe we can come here next year and go swimming?”

“Seina I'll have graduated next year.”

Seina looked sad. He pulled himself out of the water and they went back to the first floor and went down another flight of stairs to the basement.

“If you harvest any fruit or fish here and want to save it for later there is a storage room here.” Miki took two towels out of storage and gave one to Seina. “You can use this thing freely. If you use consumables please replenish them, and things that you do not want others to use can be put in the containers with biometric authentication keys.” Miki took the towel and threw it into the laundry system. It was a system Seina recognized from the dorms.

“Understood.”

“Well, let's go home, if you stay too long, Miss Masaki will get angry besides ... I have to prepare for tomorrow.”

“Oh...” Seina remembered that tomorrow was Miki's farewell party. “Miki-senpai, can I see you off tomorrow?”

“Of course, of course.”

They climbed the stairs and the two of them made it back to the transfer pad.

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When they came back to the GP Academy, the sun was already setting. The stars were beginning to shine. After separating from Miki, Seina was transferred to the highway entrance of the island with Amane's apartment. The maids greeted him and so did Kiriko with NB. NB came up to him to question him and Kiriko kicked it out of the way. Seina thought she was mad and looked at her strangely. She turned bright red out of embarrassment. She didn't want Seina knowing how she felt about Miki. She tried to distract him by telling him that dinner was getting ready and told him to hurry up and take a bath before dinner. Seina ran off to take a bath.

“Wow, I ... I can't believe Seina did that!”

“Kiriko, your voice is trembling.”

“Amane, you're a teacher, what would you do!”

“I understand that you don't want to admit it, but nobody can stop the passion of youth!” NB said. Kiriko became enraged and kicked NB again.

“Um ... ... Kiriko, I think that Seina's strange look at you just now was due to something else entirely...” Hakuren said

“You sort of just kicked NB across the room right in front of Seina...”

“I DID? ..... No way!!” Kiriko turned red. She had kicked NB instinctually and didn't even realize it.

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Seina finished eating in the living room.

“Seina, are you going to see her tomorrow?” Amane asked casually.

“Yes, I got in touch with Miki senpai's teammates and Kenneth and Rajau a while ago.”

“Although only a small number of people are leaving tomorrow, it's the first team departing for practical training, so there will be a departure ceremony in the morning and there will be no morning classes, so we are supposed to go as well to see them off.”

“Are you going to be there too?”

“Teachers have other things they have to do so I can't come.”

“Seina, we need to get up early to get there on time, so please go to bed early.”

“Yes I will.” Seina was tired from his busy day anyways and passed out as soon as he sat on his bed.

“Oh wow he's asleep already.” NB transformed into Kirche and tucked Seina into bed. She stared at his face. “Sleep well, I'm sorry ... Today, I just want to look at your face for some reason...” NB said in the voice of Kirche and then it returned to its original sphere shape and moved to a fixed position on the desk. The interior light disappeared, and silence dominated Seina's room

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Chapter Seven: Darkness

*** * * Translators' note: Day 40 * * ***

A week passed after Miki left. Her goodbye went surprisingly smooth. And the day before both Miranda and Caliche left as well and all the second-year students had been dispatched for practical training.

"Seina, how are you? ……" Seina watched the video mail he received from Miki as he got ready to move his things back into the dorm. Two emails arrived from Miki without notice to let Seina know that she arrived safely at the Decoy Department and had departed for her first mission. Unfortunately, they couldn't have a direct conversation with the time difference and their working hours, but Seina was relieved to see how lively Miki looked.

"Well, this is going to be a departure from living at that giant comfortable house ... with maids ... but at least you don't have to worry about any surprise visits from Masume..." NB said.

"You ... sure are developing an odd personality ... Is it due to the environment or is it due to Amane's software? You know you don't have to stay with me right now, I don't need you to help me move."

"I'm sorry, I was joking ... please ... don't throw me away, Seina!"

Seina looked puzzled as NB had said this in Airi's voice. "Okay, I won't just... Please stop using Airi's voice..."

"Seina, it's about time to go, is your baggage ready?" Kiriko, Amane, and Karen came in.

"Oh, yes, sorry I'm still packing." When Seina pointed to the bag next to the bed, NB suddenly started to shine and began to take the form of a woman.

"... ... Anyone.....help....."

"NB!?"

"Hey, what's up with NB ... ... did it break?"

"No, but something strange is happening!"

"Someone ... ... help ....."

As Seina watched it, the appearance and voice of NB changed to that of Miki, and froze up like a statue.

"Kiriko! Amane!" Erma said and she pulled them out of the room at a quick pace.

"Erma, what's going on with NB ...?"

Erma did not answer Seina's question, and instead pulled NB away from Seina who stood there stunned.

“Karen, look after him I have to discuss something with the others.”

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(The appearance and voice of NB ... ... It was definitely Miki-senpai ... ... what on earth is going on ...)

In Erma’s air car, Seina remembered the incident. The bad feeling did not leave his head. His back, forehead, and palms were dripping with sweat.

“Erma, what happened? What happened to NB?” Seina wanted to get rid of the doubts on his mind, he noticed Erma shiver.

“Seina ...” Erma was surprised to see Seina’s face. Erma had never seen him so shaken up. “I haven't gotten the full details yet, but I was told by the GP I should hurry and bring you to the dorm.”

“I'm confused... ... ... Maybe Miki-senpai is in trouble ... Hey Erma, do you know if anything happened to Miki-senpai!”

As expected, Erma knew the truth. But she was at a loss as to whether she should tell it to Seina who was upset more than ever.

(If he goes to the dormitory sooner or later he will know ... ...) Erma stopped the air car and looked into Seina's eyes. Would he have been able to deal with what she knew? She looked into his eyes and figured that he would be able to handle it, she resumed driving. “Seina, when you arrive at the dorm, you will definitely talk to a lot of your friends ..... And then, as a result of that discussion, something might come out.”

“Eh?”

“... ... About 6 hours ago, a mobile relay station ship belonging to the second division of the Decoy Department was attacked by someone, the first GP ship sent for backup was destroyed by the assailant. When the second backup unit arrived, everything was over, there were no survivors in the station, no emergency pod had successfully escaped, and it was completely annihilated.”

“Completely ... ... annihilated?”

“Yes”

“... And there were three GP Academy trainees there, Miki Steinbeck was one of them.”

“!! .....” Seina did not know how to deal with the sense of loss he felt. “Erma, what about NB ... ... What was that? Maybe Miki-senpai is still alive ...”

“When an accident or a Space pirate attack occurs ... ... various crew members' personal messages are sent off automatically ... Since super high-speed communication is only for business use, private communications can only be sent by normal priority. It takes time, so it seems that your NB intercepted something that was being sent to headquarters.”

Seina remembered that time on the news when he had seen a cell phone connection was hijacked by an airplane communication and a family had heard it when using their cell phone. “..... That's all?” Seina recognized it as a fact and was irritated by his own calmness. Miki-senpai was dead, so why am I not sad?

And then, he remembered Miki’s words from the time in their secret place. “Hey Seina. I wonder if you can check on my father for me...” (Ah!) Seina remembered that the person who would be even sadder than him would be Miki's father, Hiroshi. The shock he was about to receive was as unprecedented, as the one Seina had just received.

Suddenly tears overflowed from the Seina's eyes and he thought about Miki's words and about Hiroshi.

“.....” He cried silently.

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Afterword: Concluding Theater Part 1

A few weeks ago when Seina came to Amane's House:

“Kiriko-san, what is the time difference between here and the Earth?”

“Time difference? ..... Well, it's currently about thirty minutes, the academy and Earth's orbits are different though so it will keep deviating from the Earth's for just about twenty-four hours every year, so a little less than half a year from now it will be 12 am here and 12pm there.”

“I understand. Thank you very much.”

“But why?”

“I want to call Earth really quick while I check out my room.” Seina said, and then he ran up the stairs to his room.

“Hey, Seina-chan .....! Well... okay?”

“What the heck, Kiriko, haven't you told Seina yet?” Amane said sitting on the living room sofa. She raised her eyes from the magazine she was reading.

“What? ... . oh well...hum....” Kiriko laughed nervously.

Seina sat on the bed and activated the monitor. After a few seconds..... “All incoming calls rejected. Why?” Seina thought that it was a mistake in operation, he tried again, and suddenly a video message of Seina's mother was displayed on the monitor.

“Seina, listen carefully. You left home to pursue your ambitions, so you don't have to contact home all the time. Business is good, you don't want to get in the way of that do you? You also have to keep busy and devote yourself to studying, right? Kiriko is letting us know how you are doing so don't worry. So, no need to bother us or anyone else... “

“Okay, business is going well ... Well then ... I guess I'll give Tenchi's grandpa a call ... “Seina said but he didn't know that number. “Oh, uhm, I guess I could ask Tenchi-senpai.” Seina entered the Masaki family's phone number. And a few seconds later, Ryo-Ohki was displayed on the monitor.....

“Mya!”

“..... Oh ... ... That's the girl Sasami chan brings with her sometimes ... Ryo-Ohki-chan, right?”

“Miah!” Ryo-Ohki responded with happy nodding.

“Ha ha ha, it's been a while. Hey, is anyone else in the house?”

“Mya!” Ryo-Ohki went off screen.

“What's wrong? Is someone calling?” A voice came approaching. Did they understand her? It was Sasami that appeared before Seina a bit surprised. “Who is that ... . Oh, Seina Onii-chan.”

“Good evening, Sasami-chan, is Tenchi there?”

“I’m sorry, I was told I shouldn't talk to Seina for the time being.”

“Why?”

“Sorry, Tenchi Onii-chan can't either.”

“... ... Well ... ... then, what about Tenchi-senpai's grandfather ...”

“I'm sorry! That’s no good either.”

At that time Seina finally realized the meaning of Sasami's apology.

“In other words, he's not accepting complaints about Airi-san at the moment?” Seina sighed deeply, when he raised his head up again Sasami was gone and Ryo-Ohki was back.

“..... Hey Ryo-Ohki-chan, can you listen to me?”

“Miah”

“Thank you ...” Seina began complaining about Airi to Ryo-Ohki.